FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 JULY 1983

PLO Affairs

The PLO special committee made "noticeable progress" toward improving Palestinian-Syrian relations during further talks in Damascus with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, according to a statement by PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum, the chairman of the committee, reported by Aden Voice of Palestine radio on 10 July. Al-Fahum's committee also briefed Fatah opposition leaders in Damascus on the results of its recent contacts with the Fatah leadership in Tunis, Radio Monte Carlo noted. The dissidents rejected PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's suggestion that a neutral personality in the Fatah dispute be appointed commander of the PLO forces in the Al-Biqa' region, according to a PLO source cited by the radio. 'Arafat's suggestion followed his rejection of a number of proposals adopted by Al-Fahum's committee, including the recommendation of dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa as commander of PLO forces in Al-Biqa', AFP reported citing Palestinian sources. On the other hand, WAFA director Ziyad 'Abd al-Fattah subsequently denied that 'Arafat had turned down the committee's proposals and said such reports are obstructing the committee's work.

Earlier, dissident leader Col Musa predicted that Al-Fahum's committee will fail in its mission because 'Arafat has rejected all its proposals, JANA reported. The dissidents reject mediation and are unwilling to compromise on their demands, he added. The dissidents have rejected 'Arafat's proposals for a withdrawal of Fatah loyalists from Al-Biqa' to Tripoli and for the formation of an observation committee to monitor the cease-fire between the two sides, Amman radio reported.

In another development, 'Arafat will visit Moscow soon and will be preceded by a PLO delegation led by International Department chief Faruq Qaddumi, according to PLO sources cited by Tunis radio and SPA. One member of the delegation, PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, asserted in a press statement reported by KUNA that the Soviet Union regards the actions taken by the Fatah dissidents as "serving U.S. interests." He also confirmed that the PLO leadership is considering establishing a Palestinian government-in-exile, subject to the approval of the PNC.

Meanwhile, the Saudi education minister conveyed a message from King Fahd to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with the Palestinian and regional situation, SANA reported on 10 July. The Syrian leader gave the Saudi envoy a reply message.

Lebanon

IDF Redeployment The IDF will shortly, "perhaps even within a few days," begin redeploying along the Al-'Awwali River, Jerusalem radio reported on 10 July. Earlier, the IDF evacuated the Monte Verde-'Ayn Sa'adah area east of Beirut in a move described by an Israeli source as of "limited importance," Jerusalem television noted. The Lebanese Army replaced the IDF in the area, according to a Lebanese military source cited by Beirut radio.

The IDF's redeployment in Lebanon will be the first stage in the "complete withdrawal" of Israeli forces from Lebanon, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir subsequently told European parliamentarians in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio.

Reported Israeli Attack An Israeli warplane reportedly attacked a Syrian radar position in Lebanon with an air-to-ground missile on 10 July, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon announced early on 11 July. Other monitored sources have not confirmed the incident.

Culprits of Embassy Bombing Security authorities have detained more than 10 people who confessed to participating in the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Radio Free Lebanon reported on 10 July citing the Lebanese press. Those arrested belong to an organization "well-known for using violence" and "for links with foreign circles," the radio said.

Al-Wazzan Interview Lebanon would "undoubtedly" repudiate the Israeli-Lebanese agreement if it could find a more favorable alternative, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan declared in an interview with Budapest television. He also appealed to all countries capable of helping Lebanon to supply it with military and nonmilitary aid.

Israel

Three policemen and six demonstrators were wounded during an 8 July Muslim demonstration on Temple Mount, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, in the wake of the murder of a Jewish settler in Hebron and the dismissal of the city's Arab mayor, Defense Minister Moshe Arens accused the mayor and members of his council of having a hand in creating the atmosphere that contributed toward the recent violence in Hebron. Speaking in an interview with Jerusalem television, Arens dismissed proposals for the establishment of a Jewish settlers militia, asserting that there is "no room" for militia groups in Israel or in territory under Israeli rule. Asked for his view on Jewish settlement in Hebron, Arens said the old Jewish quarter in the city must be rehabilitated and the number of Jewish inhabitants increased.

Reporting on the continuing tension in Hebron, *The Jerusalem Post* noted that in the wake of the Jewish settler's murder, Jewish settlers destroyed 90 percent of the Arab market stalls and several stores in the city.

Iran

Measures Against France Iran has decided to close down the French Consulate in Esfahan and the French cultural institute in response to the French Government's "hostile actions," especially France's cooperation with the "terrorist hypocrites and hijackers," according to a 9 July Foreign Ministry announcement broadcast by Tehran Radio. France's "animosity" toward Iran through its support for Iraq and the Iranian "counterrevolution front" reached a peak of hostility and deceit when the French provided facilities for the recent hijackers of an Iranian passenger plane, the statement asserted. Earlier, in a Friday sermon broadcast by the radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani accused France, Kuwait, the United States, and the Mojahedin-e Khalq of engineering the hijacking. Criticizing the French authorities for bringing Mojahedin leader Mas'ud Rajavi to negotiate with the hijackers while refusing to allow the Iranian charge d'affaires to participate in the talks, Rafsanjani warned that Iran would take revenge against France, "but not with terrorism."

Meanwhile, Iranians continued to hijack aircraft in order to leave their country. Hijacked Iranian helicopters landed in Bahrain and Oman over the weekend, according to WAKH.

Prime Minister on Economic Situation — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, in an interview broadcast by Tehran radio on 10 July reviewing the country's economic situation and the revolution's accomplishments in this area, attacked hoarding and profiteering. The prime minister called hoarders and profiteers "economic terrorists" and members of "dark gangs" who try to portray themselves as spokesmen for the bazaar in criticizing the government by saying that it and the revolution have done nothing for the people. The clandestine Radio Iran viewed Mir-Hoseyn Musavi's remarks as an unprecedented attack on the hojjatiyeh faction that opens a new chapter in the power struggle within the regime and predicted violent clashes in the future.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi Naval units and aircraft destroyed three Iranian naval vessels trying to enter the port of Bandar-e Khomeyni, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio on 10 July. An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio the same day said one Iraqi helicopter was shot down west of the Al-Umayyah and Al-Bakr jetties. Earlier, Iranian fire on an Iraqi troop concentration preparing to launch an offensive along the Marivan front killed or wounded some 50 Iraqi soldiers, according to another military communique broadcast by Tehran Radio. In another development, the commander of the Iranian Ground Forces said Iraq has attempted some 11 offensives in the Sharhani area of the Moharram theater recently but all were repelled by Iranian forces which captured great amounts of war spoils, IRNA reported over the weekend.

North African Affairs

Postponement of Moroccan Elections — Morocco has postponed the date of its national elections in order to concentrate on retrieving the "usurped" Sahara through the referendum called by the OAU, King Hassan II announced in a speech carried by MAP on 9 July. While admitting that general elections are constitutionally required, King Hassan said the Constitution is subordinate to Morocco's territorial integrity. Regarding the Saharan referendum, he said that even if the result is "negative, which is inconceivable," nothing can compel Morocco to relinquish the Sahara and its people "on a golden platter" to a group of "mercenaries." Since the "recalcitrants" will be losers whatever the referendum's result, their only option is to return to Morocco, which is prepared to forgive them and forget their misdeeds, the monarch said.

Libyan Involvement in Chad — A Chadian official announced on 9 July that 3,000 Libyan soldiers are participating in current fighting in northern and eastern Chad, SUNA reported. The chief of staff of former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's forces admitted that Libya has supplied weapons to his troops but added that the Libyan weaponry is being used by Chadians, according to AFP citing a monitored rebel radio broadcast. Commentaries by Tripoli radio and JANA asserted that President Hissein Habre's refusal to allow an OAU committee into Chad to investigate claims of Libyan intervention there confirms that Libya is not interfering and that Habre's allegations in this regard are lies. JANA also warned that underlying France and Egypt's declared intention of increasing aid to Habre's government is a secret agreement to send Egyptian troops to assist Habre's forces. However, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali subsequently stressed that Egypt has "no intention" of sending forces to Chad, MENA reported. Meanwhile, a Chadian envoy delivered a message to King Hassan from Habre requesting Moroccan military assistance to help confront Goukouni's forces, KUNA disclosed citing an official source in Rabat. In Paris a rebel spokesman announced that Goukouni's forces have captured Abeche, 700 km from Ndjamena, JANA reported on 9 July.

Release of Hostages in Sudan — The Sudanese Army rescued five Western hostages recently kidnapped by the self-styled "liberation front of southern Sudan," according to a Sudanese military communique carried by SUNA on 9 July. The five foreigners — who included two Americans — were safely freed after the Army attacked and occupied rebel positions on Boma mountain, killing 18 and forcing the others to flee toward Ethiopia. The Sudanese communique accused the "outlaws" of having contacts with Libya and an unspecified communist country.

Afghanistan

Deputy Foreign Minister's Interview — The recent "provocative" visit to Pakistan by Secretary of State Shultz indicates that the "imperialist powers" seek to block the present indirect negotiations between the DRA and Pakistan, Deputy Foreign Minister Sarwar Yuresh said in a television interview reported by BAKHTAR on 11 July. Yuresh said "some" progress was achieved at the talks and understanding was reached on most aspects of issues under discussion. Should the existing process of contacts proceed unobstructed, Yuresh said, "there will be a possibility" for direct talks in the near future. The withdrawal of Soviet troops is Afghanistan's internal affair, according to Yuresh, and can be possible only if there is a complete cessation of hostile acts against the DRA and guarantees against their recurrence.

Insurgent Activity — Afghan insurgents shot down a Soviet MIG, capturing its pilot and an adviser, during a Soviet-DRA raid on an insurgent stronghold near Kabul on 5 July, AFP reported citing Afghan resistance sources in Islamabad. Earlier, Karachi radio reported that "severe" clashes have taken place between insurgents and Soviet-DRA forces north of Kabul in late June which left 54 civilians and 23 Soviet-DRA soldiers dead.

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'Arafat Interviewed on Intra-Fatah Mutiny

PM081200 London Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat in Arabic 7 Jul 83 pp 1,2

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by 'Irfan Nizam ad-Din: "First Interview Since Expulsion From Damascus; 'Arafat: The Major Consipracy Has Been Uncovered; The Question Is Not Inside Fatah But in Arab Interference To End PLO" — in Tunis, date not given]

[Excerpt] Question: Have any specific results been achieved to solve the crisis, after the mediations and the Palestinian committee's contacts?

Answer: Unfortunately, so far these committees have been unable to achieve any useful results. For example, the joint Saudi-Algerian committee which recently went to Damascus was received only by [Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister] 'Abd Al-Halim Khaddam, and it came away with negative results, despite the fact that we had agreed with the Saudi and Algerian brothers and the Arab League, first, to cease fire in Al-Biqa' and, second, to reach an agreement with the Syrian brothers and if no agreement were reached, to be allowed to withdraw our forces from Al-Biqa' to the Tripoli area.

We adopted this stand in agreement with the Saudi and Algerian brothers and submitted it to the Syrian brothers out of our desire to stop bloodshed. This is because, since we left Beirut, we cannot possibly cling to the "Al-Masna'" [border post], for example, if clinging to that post is likely to cause Arab-Palestinian or intra-Palestinian bloodshed. The Palestinian committee has also so far failed to reach any solutions.

I met with Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and [Deputy Foreign Minister] Faruq Ash-Shara' for 2 hours, and the following day I met with some Palestinian brothers as well as with some of the dissidents, but the results were negative. Unfortunately, it appears that there is an insistence, as a first step, on ending the Palestinian revolution's presence in the Al-Masna'-Shtawrah-Ba'Labakk triangle, which means that the Palestinian forces must leave there. This explains the attack in which the Libyan battalion took part — an incident which Libya does not deny but which rather the Libyan media and all Libyan officials without exception are boasting about. They say that they are taking part in the fighting.

It is my right to say that this Libyan force is at the disposal of Syrian operations. How can it say that it did not take part in the fighting? There are documents that prove the participation of the Syrian forces, the pro-Syrian As-Sa'iqah forces, and the forces of the "Jibril" group, the "Abu Nidal" group, and the "Abu Musa" group. Therefore, the claim that it is a Fatah internal matter is rejected. The cover has been broken: I have documents and the admission of the Libyan officials, reiterated day and night in their television and press.

Question: Press reports have said that you made concessions.

Answer: I have made no concessions.

Question: To the dissidents.

Answer: This is not true. There is a collective PLO leadership and there is a collective Fatah leadership. The PLO operates through the Executive Committee and Fatah is governed by its Central Committee and Revolutionary Council. This council met in the most difficult circumstances, under artillery shelling during the attack on our base in Majdal 'Anjar. The Council said its piece with courage and without fear.

Question: Today the Central Committee concluded its meetings. It is possible to know something about its resolutions?

Answer: We have adopted very important resolutions in order to resolve the situation and deal with it from all aspects andunder all circumstances. These will be announced in the coming few days.

Question: Brother Abu 'Ammar, it appears from what you say that the problem is highly complicated and the solutions are difficult...

Answer: It is complicated for one reason:There are Arab parties that have involved themselves in this situation. In fact they have created it and are fostering and backing it. To surrender to them our offices, depots, and stores which are guarded by the Syrian fedayeen control force. [sentence as published] Here lies the gravity of the matter.

It is my right to ask: Are our forces encircled in Al-Biqa' facing a new "Tall az-Za'tar," just as our forces in Tall az-Za'tar were encircled? It is my right to put this question to the Arab nation.

Question: As commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, can you suggest to us a formula for solving this crisis in all its aspects?

Answer: I am prepared for either a bilateral [agreement] between us and Syria, or [an agreement] through the Arab reconciliation and brotherhood committee, which consists of Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and the Arab League secretary general; through the Arab seven-member committee set up by the Fes summit, or through a conference of Arab foreign ministers. I hold the Arab nation responsible for this. Leaving the Palestinians at the mercy of shelling and facing death under the pretext of a major falsehood and the fabricated lie that there is a conflict within Fatah is an injustice for which every Arab official and citizen is responsible.

Question: Do we understand from this that you will call for an Arab summit?

Answer: I am forced to resort to any means in order to protect those strugglers whom Israel was unable to annihilate.

Question: Will you also call for a PNC meeting?

Answer: If I am forced by circumstances I shall call for a PNC meeting.

Question: There is great distortion of the facts regarding the mutiny, how it developed, and what its objectives are. We would like to hear the true story from you.

Answer: We were threatened with this when I was seeking an agreement with Jordan. We were threatened that something would happen inside our ranks. You are well aware who threatened us publicly. We were also threatened when we were trying to reach a stand inside the occupied territory with the aim of reaching a solution. We were also threatened when we were going along with the Arab seven-member committee in order to implement what we agreed to in Fes.

A few days after my meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad I was surprised by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], our chief of operations, trying to take over control of Al-Yakmuk Brigade. I immediately returned to the area. Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] had set up two committees — a military committee and a revolutionary cadres committee — to investigate the matter.

At the beginning the mutineers gave the excuse of military transfers. They falsely alleged that I transferred 55 officers from Al-Biqa' to other areas. I transferred only one officer according to a decision taken on 25 November 1982. Some of the Syrian brothers conveyed this falsehood to a number of Arab officials. Of course, it is not true. What I did after the military meeting was to bring in 45 officers from distant posts to Al-Biqa' in order to reinforce the area.

After the story of the decisions regarding military transfers was exposed, they claimed that there was a need for reform. Well, who is against reform? When the Revolutionary Council adopted resolutions — they know that it was agreed at the meeting held in Aden at the end of January and beginning of February that the Revolutionary Council was to meet in San'a' on 17 May to discuss these internal matters, reforms, and the problems that resulted from the Lebanon war. It was natural that we should evaluate these problems. A military investigation committee was set up under Brigadier Mahmud ar-Rawsan (Abu al-Hakam).

Question: Some people have nicknamed this committee the "'Abd al-'Alim [derogatory appellation] committee."

Answer: This is one of the silly things which some Arab quarters are trying to circulate. This man is director of the revolutionary judiciary in the Fatah movement and the Palestinian revolution. He is the legal consultant to the Executive Committee chairman. He is known to be one of the most honest officers in Fatah and the Palestinian revolution. For your information, the Committee has 500 recorded tapes of statements by our officers and 6,000 pages.

Question: Of course, these will not be made public.

Answer: It is out of the question. This is our own evaluation and our secret.

Question: But internally the commanders and cadres could have been acquainted with the outcome of the evaluation.

Answer: More than that; the Military Council was to be acquainted with it. In fact, it has begun to be acquainted with it and has been asked to look into the results.

Question: Do we understand from this that the mutiny has jumped to conclusions?

Answer: In any case, it is not a question of reforms or investigations. After all avenues were blocked to them, they said that it was a question of a political stand. How can any person, whoever he may be, dare to claim that he is above Palestinian legitimacy? There is a decision by the PNC to which we are committed. This decision is also adhered to by the Arab inhabitants of our occupied territory, who are under Israeli rule. How can any person allow himself to deviate from legitimacy? This is the crux of the matter. Certain Arab quarters have charged some parties with the task of undermining this legitimacy and causing Palestinian democracy to deviate from the course it has charted for itself so as to become like some Arab regimes.

No, we shall continue to adhere to our democracy inside the Palestinian arena. We insist on making it successful. It has proven its success in the past 19 years. We will not allow any individual working for some Arab organ to cause us to deviate from this course.

What is more serious is the fact that political trial balloons were prepared in advance of this operation. For example, some 242 articles and comments appeared in the American press alone within 40 days. The American newspapers were writing more about this topic than about their own internal problems. They published only 11 articles on the problem of the SALT II talks [as published] with the Soviet Union. This gives you an idea how well the publicity campaign for this conspiracy against the Palestinian revolution was prepared.

I will give you an example: About 2 months ago they [the dissidents] said that they had taken control of Damascus-Beirut Highway. I would like to ask: Under whose control is this highway? Has it not been under Syrian control since 1976? How can anybody else take control of it? This is how this lie was fabricated and disseminated by world news agencies and newspapers. Another example was when we were meeting in the Revolutionary Council and the attack on Majdal 'Anjar took place with the participation of Syrian forces.

I received a telegram from the officer liaising between us and the Syrians saying that this had been a mistake on the part of the officer in charge of the Al-Masna' post. The telegram was disseminated by the Syrian SANA news agency, which said "the mutineers also took control of the Al-Masna' area (on the Syrian-Lebanese borders)." Well, is there anybody who does not know that the Al-Masna' area has been the headquarters of a Syrian Army division since 1976? Israel knows this. The satellites know this. How can all the media reiterate this lie? How can the Al-Masna' area be closed in our face when it is under the control of a Syrian division headquarters?

Well, if a fool talks, a reasonable man can only listen. It is not a question concerning Fatah or a crisis inside Fatah. It is a question of ending the Palestinian revolution and striking at it so as to finish what Israel could not finish in 88 days.

Question: Some people blame you for not taking a decision to confront the crisis from its first day because, had you done so, it would have been contained and the time factor could not have been exploited.

Answer: For your information, as soon as this thing happened we were informed by the Syrian General Staff that any shot fired would be answered by the expulsion of all the Palestinian forces from Al-Biqa'.

I would like to ask: How could an attack take place on our bases, and where did this happen? [as published] Why, when we try to deal with an internal problem, are warnings served on us and do Libyan tanks, artillery, rockets, and vehicles attack us, while nobody says anything? The conspiracy was halted by one thing — the mass uprising in all the Palestinian camps in Lebanon — Sidon, Tyre, Beirut, and northern Al-Biqa' — and in Al-Yarmuk (Damascus camp). This is in addition to the rising by our people in the occupied territories, who were generous in their giving and indeed proved to be the shield protecting this revolution and this organization.

For example, today I received a petition 1.5 meters long. It came not from the West Bank but from Al-Wahdat camp in Amman. The petition is 1.5 meters long and 40 cm wide. Nobody can cow this people, steal their revolution, overpower them, or make them go down on their knees. This revolution is their conscience and, therefore, they are defending it and its independent decision.

Question: Let us move on to the question of your deportation from Damascus. You said earlier that you had gone from Tripoli to Damascus in response to an official invitation.

Answer: Yes, it was an official invitation and I met with certain officials.

Question: So what is the secret of what happened in the matter of a few hours?

Answer: First of all, I regret to say that the road which I used was later cut off after one of our convoys was ambushed at midnight. The Al-Masna' road had already been closed. The following day they told me: "Please leave."

Question: Were you told so in writing?

Answer: At the beginning an official request was passed to me through Brother Abu Mahir (Ahmad al-Yamani). Then an officer came to the Palestinian command headquarters where I was meeting with the members of that command, who later came to the airport with me. They surrounded the airport with 70 vehicles. I will leave it to Brother President al-Asad to say whether he condones the way the leader of the Palestinian revolution and Executive Committee chairman was treated at the airport. I leave that to him. I have a right to ask him this question, particularly since a notification that I should not go to Syria was sufficient. I had asked my brothers not to press me to go to Syria.

Question: Do you believe that the break between you and Syria is final, or is there room for reconciliation and restoration of normal relations?

Answer: This is up to my Syrian brothers. You can address that question to them.

Question: But are you willing?

Answer: We in the Palestinian revolution need the help of all our Arab brothers. I issued an order and sent cables instructing that not one shot should be fired at Syrian troops, because we are in the same trench. The Syrian brothers know this and they have seen the cables.

Question: One of the stories circulated about what happened is that, on the day you refused to sign the agreement with Jordan, the umbrella was withdrawn from you, and some people seized the opportunity, thinking that your Arab and international position had been weakened.

Answer: My only umbrella so far is my Arab nation. I think that the opposite of what you said is correct. Perhaps some people are trying to break this Arab umbrella of which I am proud, but your question undoubtedly has considerable political significance. What is now happening in the region may provide the answer to your question. I have already stated that there are many things I have not yet revealed. God willing, we will talk about the secrets of this period in another session with you.

Question: Can you not talk about them now?

Answer: Of course not, but what is happening is an attempt to chart a new map of the region. I have already said this. I said: Brothers, a new map is in the making, so let us keep our eyes wide open.

Question: The PNC has passed some resolutions relating to confederal relations with Jordan and other issues. Are they still valid, or have they been eroded by recent developments?

Answer: I have said that the Jordanian Government and Jordanian officials have the answer. I have said that the door is still open. I have not closed the door to dialogue. I said it in Sweden and I repeated it in Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Hungary, Bulgaria, and Czechoslovakia.

Question: But do you not believe that the mutiny has been very detrimental to the PLO and its representation of the Palestinian people?

Answer: Undoubtedly. I cannot pretend. That is why I say that the PLO's reputation has been affected by what is happening, but I have a right to tell those who have been tampering: "This is sacrilege. You have committed sacrilege."

Question: Proceeding from this premise, is there an appeal you wish to address to the mutineers and the Palestinian people?

Answer: I will address no appeal to the mutineers. I will leave them to history. I do want to address a word to our heroic people who have always justified our gamble on them. I want to tell them that we will overcome this crisis together as we did all past crises, and we will emerge stronger, sharper, and more determined to achieve our objectives and exercise our national rights which can never be compromised. Before the Lebanon war and the Beirut siege I said that we had entered a dark tunnel. Many did not know what that meant. We spent 88 days under siege in the dark tunnel. This current crisis and the attempts to carry out a new massacre are a continuation of the dark tunnel, but at the end of the tunnel I can see light and through this light I can see Jerusalem's minarets and churches.

'Arafat Rejects Proposals To End Fatah Split

NC091300 Paris AFP in English 1140 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, July 8 (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation chief Yasir 'Arafat has turned down proposals for ending the split within his [words indistinct] movement, reliable Palestinian sources here said today after the return of a PLO mission from talks with him in Tunis. After discussions with pro-Soviet Fatah dissidents here, members of a special committee of conciliation set up by the PLO Executive Committee in Tunis a week ago had unanimously adopted three proposals designed to serve as a basis for a political settlement, the sources said.

The proposals involved:

— The appointment of dissident chief Colonel Abu Musa, a member of the Fatah revolutionary council, as commander in chief of the Palestinian forces of the Lebanese Al-Biqa' region.

— The dismissal of Abu Hajim, Abu az-Za'im, and Al-Haj Isma'il from the command of Palestinian forces and abandon [as received] by Mr. 'Arafat of latest steps in a reshuffle of the PLO leadership.

— The holding of a plenary meeting of the Fatah Central Committee including dissident leaders Nimr Salih (Abu Salih) and Samih Quwayq (Qadri).

The sources said Mr. 'Arafat rejected the proposals and told the committee to "limit itself" to resolving his own dispute with Syria. These reports, unconfirmed by either 'Arafat loyalists or dissidents, followed Mr. 'Arafat's own announcement that mediation efforts both with Syria and Fatah rebels had so far failed.

Today, members of the committee headed by Palestinian National Council president Khalid al-Fahum had further talks with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Palestinian sources said. The committee had had two meetings with Mr. Khaddam before returning to Tunis to report back to Mr. 'Arafat.

Yesterday afternoon five members of the six-man committee had more talks with Fatah dissidents in Damascus to inform them of Mr. 'Arafat's response, according to dissident spokesman Khalid al-Amlet.

Meanwhile, reliable Palestinian Sources here said that several prominent Palestinian residents in Jordan, including members of the PNC, had [words indistinct] Tunis recently for the proclamation of a Palestinian state and a government-in-exile. According to the source, the PNC was urged to proclaim a "Palestinian Arab state" with Jerusalem as its capital under Resolution 181 of the United Nations, adopted on November 29, 1947. The project called for Jerusalem to be placed temporarily under U.N. mandate "until the final solution of the Palestinian problem", the sources said.

The responsibility of forming a provisional government would fall to the PLO which would fulfill this role until a constitution could be approved by the PNC and a Palestinian government elected, the sources said.

'Arafat Reportedly To Visit USSR 'Next Week'

JN091011 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] A short while ago, a responsible Palestinian source told our radio that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will leave for Moscow next week. As for Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], he will arrive in East Berlin today at the head of a Palestinian delegation.

PLO Delegation Makes Preparations

LD091441 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1340 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Tunis, 9 Jul (SPA) — A high-level Palestinian delegation will begin a visit to Moscow on Monday in response to an official Soviet invitation. The delegation will be led by PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi. Among the members of the delegation will be members of the PLO Executive Committee Mahmud Abbas and Yasir 'abd Rabbuh.

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf said today, during a stop at Rome airport en route to East Berlin, that PLO executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will leave for Moscow within a week in response to a Soviet invitation for consultation with the Soviet leaders about the current situation in the Al-Biqa' valley. He added that Mr Qaddumi and his delegation will prepare for Mr 'Arafat's visit to Moscow and his talks with the Soviet leaders.

WAFA reported from Tunis that the Palestinian-Soviet talks will basically concentrate on the serious development in the Palestinian arena. It added that Mr 'Arafat has received an invitation to visit the Soviet Union himself and for a visit by the PLO Executive Committee delegation, too.

Salah Khalaf Assesses Trip

AU091546 Rome ANSA in English 1537 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] (ANSA) — Rome, July 9 — The Soviet decision to invite Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat to Moscow for talks has come "at the right time" because of the need for discussion with the Soviet leaders on the split between Palestinians and Syrians, the number-two man in the PLO Abu Iyad said here today.Iyad was leaving Rome's Fiumicino International Airport on his way to East Berlin.

According to Abu Iyad, the mission sent to Damascus by the PLO Executive Committee to try and mediate with Syria and the anti-'Arafat dissidents in the Al-Biqa' valley had achieved "precisely nothing". He said its three-point mandate was for a ceasefire, an "open, sincere, and equal" dialogue with Syria, and refusal to talk with the rebels "outside a regular congress" of the PLO.

As Iyad noted, there are "constructive disputes and requests for improvement" within any party, but "you cannot use weapons to formulate your requests". "The most dangerous thing is that this dissident movement has emerged with the external support of the Syrians and the Libyans," the PLO official added. "The dissidents are a small group and, without Syrian support, the problem would not exist".

In any case, Abu Iyad, disclosed, 'Arafat took his expulsion from Syria "very calmly, because he had been expecting a measure of that type for some time".

'Arafat Says Syria 'Betrayed' Palestinian Cause

JN101543 Baghdad INA in English 1500 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] New Delhi, July 10, INA — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has expressed the hope that the PLO unity would continue to be preserved under the leadership of Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, INA learns from highly placed deplomatic sources. Replying to her letter, Yasir 'Arafat has informed Mrs Gandhi that the mutiny within Fatah ranks was a guise to liquidate the Palestinian movement.

A well informed Indian source told INA today that Mr 'Arafat had told Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's special envoy Romesh Bhandari on Friday night in Tunis that Syria has betrayed the Palestinian cause.'Arafat sought support from the Nonaligned Movement in fighting foreign inspired conspiracies against the PLO. However, he added that he was against any compromise with the Fatah rebels whom he charged with giving a bad name to the PLO movement.

Mr Bhandari, secretary in the Indian External Affairs Ministry, wound up his week-long tour last night after meetings with Mr 'Arafat, the Syrian president, Libyan leader Major Jallud, the Arab League secretary general and other leaders.

Syria Reportedly Increases Aid to PLO Dissidents

NC091426 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Excerpt] One of our correspondents has reported from Al-Biqa' that an exchange of gunfire occurred at around 2315 between unidentified parties in the Ar-Rifa'i clan's area of Ba'labakk. This exchange lasted about 20 minutes. It is believed that the Syrian intelligence service is supporting such actions in order to incite clashes between the dissident Palestinians and the 'Arafat faction. Fatah Security Squad No 17 set up huge barricades on the main roads of Ta'labaya today.

In another development, according to information received a short while ago, Syria has extended new military aid to the Abu Musa faction, and that this aid has been distributed among the Abu Musa faction's positions which face those of 'Arafat's supporters. This aid includes 82- and 106-mm mortars, field artillery, anti-armor guns, personnel carriers, jeeps, large quantities of ammunition, medium-caliber weapons, artillery shells, and RPG's.

The information adds that the Syrian intelligence service and some Syrian officers have held a series of contacts with the 'Arafat faction of Security Squad No 17 and with some Palestine Liberation Army officers, offering funds in an attempt to win them over to the Abu Musa faction. They threatened others who refused to obey the Syrian demand. This information also indicates that the Syrian forces have prevented armed men from the 'Arafat faction from erecting barricades on the Al-Masna'-Shtawrah Road, while the supporters of Abu Musa retained barricades and positions close to this road.

Said Monitoring Palestinian Moves

NC092106 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Reliable informed security sources have indicated that Syrian warships were cruising along the coast from Shikka up to Tripoli in the last few days to monitor Palestinian movements, particularly following the return of pro-'Arafat men from some Arab capitals via Cyprus, and subsequently to prevent the arrival of arms to Al-Minyah and to another port established near the Al-Baddawi camp. Meanwhile, 'Arafat's Fatah Command has warned its members not to travel by sea before considering enemy movements. The command called on its fighters not to carry arms outside the Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps and other areas under its control.

Reports indicate that 'Arafat's Fatah forces are periodically carrying out live ammunition exercises in bases located in an area between Al-Barid and Al-Minyah. Tripoli citizens and evacuees from Hamah opposed to the Syrian regime are training in these camps. Reports add that the Syrians have recently set up heavy artillery and 160-mm mortars on the hills overlooking most quarters in Tripoli, particularly the Palestinian camps. The Syrian authority has made large rotations in the military commands in the north as a precautionary measure following indications that some military men intend not to execute orders that might be issued to shell Tripoli.

Syrians, Fatah Dissidents Reject 'Arafat Proposal

JN081934 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus — The Syrians and Fatah rebels have announced their rejection of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's proposal to withdraw the Palestinian forces loyal to him [from the Al-Biqa'] to an area close to Tripoli. They also rejected another proposal calling for the formation of an observation committee to observe the cease-fire between the forces loyal to 'Arafat on the one hand and the Syrian and other Palestinian forces opposing him on the other.

Earlier 'Arafat proposed withdrawing the Palestinian units loyal to him from the Al-Biqa' valley in an attempt to avoid fratricide between the two sides. He also proposed to have a team of observers in the Al-Biqa' to supervise a cease-fire in the area.

More on Proposal Rejection

JN110612 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Leaders of the Fatah opposition wing continued propaganda campaigns against the stands and practices of the Fatah leadership.

Abu Khalid al-'Amlah has again accused Abu 'Ammar and his aides of supporting the U.S. and Arab reaction-backed solution. Abu Khalid said that the opposition elements will obstruct Yasir 'Arafat's attempts to withdraw his troops from Lebanon and give up the armed struggle against Israel.

Dissident Leader Warns Syria on Attacking 'Arafat

LD111021 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0754 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait 11 Jul (KUNA) — The opposition leader within the Fatah movement, Colonel Abu Musa, stated that his forces will fight the Syrian forces if they attempt to strike at the positions loyal to Mr. 'Arafat. On the other hand, the commander of Al-Yarmuk forces within the movement Colonel Abu Yusif has said that Fatah will emerge strong from this predicament to resume its basic task of fighting the Zionist enemy.

Colonel Abu Yusif, who is detained at his home by Abu Musa forces, stressed his strong opposition to the way the commander of the military opposition within Fatah is tackling matters. Resolving differences should be carried out within the organizational framework of the movement, through democratic dialogue and with the spirit of comradeship in struggle.

He renewed, in an interview with the Kuwaiti *Al-Qabas* published today, his absolute confidence in 'Arafat's leadership of the movement not only as a symbol of the Palestinian people but also as a brilliant leader capable of forcing victory for the Arab Palestinian people and restoring confidence to the Arab self which has been exhausted through setbacks, defeats, and strikes.

"Abu 'Ammar," he said, "could be wrong or right. However, I am confident that he did not deviate from the resolutions of Fatah conferences and its revolutionary principles; neither from the political program and the Palestinian National Charter nor from the Palestinian National Council resolutions."

The Palestinian leader stressed that the Zionist enemy was unable, with all its military might, to harm the Palestinian revolution. However, the most dreadful thing for me is that the rift in the Fatah movement might lead to the realization of the Zionist objective in breaking the back of the revolution as happened to the previous Palestinian forces in 1920-48."

"I know", he said, "the brothers who led this unlawful move." "They cannot be agents or treacherous or even seeking power. Therefore, I believe that the Fatah movement will emerge strong from this predicament to return to its basic task of fighting the Zionist enemy and strike at it everywhere". He added, in replying to a question, that he will definitely go back to his basic and natural position after his period of detention, which he believes will not be long.

In another statement to *Al-Qabas*, Col Abu Musa said that his movement, which he refuses to call dissident or corrective, could end in peace if Abu 'Ammar consented to the convocation of a general conference of the Fatah movement at the earliest possible date. He suggested holding the conference in Lebanon or anywhere else, and stressed that he and his comrades would adhere to all the resolutions of the conference, even if the conference adopted the path (?pursued) by Abu 'Ammar. He added that those who accused him and his brothers of cooperating with Syria were under an illusion, because they were aware before everyone else that he and Col Abu Khalid al-Amlah were the ones who confronted the Syrian forces with weapons in 1976 in Aj-Jabal and Saydah when they believed that the Syrian decision was wrong.

The opposition military commander pointed out that things were somehow different now. He said: Syria is against the Reagan plan and this is congruent with our beliefs. Syria is against confederation with Jordan and this is also congruent with our beliefs. Syria is against contacts with leaders of the Zionist entity under any banner, and this also is congruent with our beliefs. Syria agreed to the Arab peace plan in Fes and we differed with her on this.

He stressed that his forces would not allow any Arab or non-Arab side to strike against any units of the revolution. He said: If we sense at any time that the Syrian or other forces would strike against Fatah positions [word indistinct] stand against us, we shall not hesitate to (?strike).

Col Abu Musa refused to call his movement dissident or corrective. He said: We could call it thinking aloud, because Abu 'Ammar is still the leader of this revolution and [word indistinct] must be carried out through the general conference of the movement. The solution is not in Damascus, Riyadh, [word indistinct], Bucharest, or Moscow. The solution must be attained within the organizational structure of Fatah, and arms can never be a solution.

Sa'id Musa Sees Committee Failure, Opposes Talks

LD091918 Tripoli JANA in English 1636 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, Ramadan 29, July 9. JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY One of the leaders of the revolutionary movement in the Fatah organization, Colonel Abu Musa, said the six-man committee entrusted by the PLO's Executive Committee to find a solution to the dispute inside Fatah will fail in its mission because of its inability to find a solution, and because the PLO command is adamant regarding its current stance and rejects all suggestions tabled by this committee, prefering instead to go along in its attempts to Arabise and internationalise this dispute, something which the revolutionary movement rejects.

This came in an interview with the press last night following a meeting of the political and military command of the revolutionary movement in Fatah.

On the activities of the Palestinian mediation committee, Abu Musa said "we reject any mediation, whether it may be Palestinian, Arab, or international, because we insist that this issue should remain inside Fatah and there are no compromise solutions to existing national problems." He added "we call on the political command in Fatah to clearly express its position regarding current Palestinian issues. We inform the six-man committee that we have no compromise solution to our demands which we consider as being just... Following the failure of the committee and the lack of response to our demands, we expect further support for our principles and positions."

On the decisions and appointments made by the Central Committee of Fatah, Abu Musa said "these decisions are of no concern to us,and are a reflection of what is happening inside the movement." He called on members of the committee to come to Damascus to deal with the issue at close quarters and to open a debate with the fighters. He said the committee has lost the ability to carry out its role and is incapable of dealing with any case inside Fatah. He said current issues are not the prerogative of the Central Committee or the Revolutionary Council of Fatah, but of the General Congress of Fatah organization.

Salih Affirms Talks Rejection

LD090743 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Brother Nimr Salih, member of the Command Committee of the new revolutionary movement in Fatah has affirmed that Yasir 'Arafat was in collusion with the American administration over the withdrawal of the Palestinian forces from Lebanon.

Commenting on 'Arafat's declared readiness to withdraw the Palestinian forces from the Al-Biqa', Brother Salih affirmed that this will lead to a large-scale escalation of the revolution against Yasir 'Arafat and his group. Brother Salih pointed out that the revolutionary movement will continue the struggle against the capitulationist projects and affirms its rejection of all mediation with the Fatah [word indistinct] leaderships.

PLO Mediation Committee Continues Efforts

JN091655 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] The special committee formed by the PLO Executive Committee meetings has resumed its work in Damascus.

PNC speaker Brother Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the special committee, said that the PLO Executive Committee has asked the special committee to continue its work to settle the dispute within the Fatah movement —after it has succeeded in stopping the fighting — and to seek relations ensuring the unity of the movement and the PLO. Al-Fahum added that the six-man special committee has drawn up a work program for its moves and contacts.

Committee Meets Opposition Leaders

JN090601 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] The special Palestinian mediation committee led by PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum met with leaders of the opposition movement within Fatah for 3 hours in Damascus yesterday. Opposition spokesman Colonel Abu Khalid al-'Amlah said that the opposition members were briefed on the results of the committee's talks in Tunis.

Abu Salih, one of the opposition leaders, has rejected a proposal submitted by the committee, on Yasir 'Arafat's behalf, for the formation of two neutral Palestinian parties from the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] which will act as a buffer force between the two disputing parties within Fatah. Khalid al-Fahum said that he will meet with Syrian officials today and that he will leave for Moscow next week.

According to a well-informed Palestinian source, 'Arafat has refused to appoint Abu Musa commander of the Palestinian forces in Lebanon. He proposed the appointment of a neutral personality as commander of these forces, which was rejected by the opposition.

Committee Chairman Notes 'Progress'

GF101946 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Brother Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of Palestine National Council, has said that the committee — drawn from the PLO Executive Committee — achieved noticeable progress on the path of improving the Palestinian-Syrian alliance during its meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today. He added that the committee discussed with Khaddam the results of its talks with Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee Chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Reports of Failure Dismissed

JN100855 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] In Tunis, Ziyad 'Abd al-Fattah, director of the Palestinian news agency [WAFA], has strongly denied that the six-member committee's meetings have produced no positive results.

He said: I dismiss the Damascus reports to the effect that the meetings of the Palestinian reconciliation committee have produced no results because Yasir 'Arafat turned down the committee's proposals. Ziyad 'Abd al-Fatah added that the reports are groundless and are obstructing the committee's good offices.

WAFA's director also denied the reports that 'Arafat had refused to convene the Fatah Central Committee in the presence of all its members, including Nimr Salih and Samih Quwayq (alias Qadri), two dissident members from Fatah. He added: The 72 members of the Fatah Revolutionary Council have been invited to a meeting. Ziyad 'Abd al-Fattah pointed out that 'Arafat had asked the reconciliation committee to devote its efforts to the settlement of the Palestinian-Syrian crisis, because he believes that the crisis is basically a Syrian-Palestinian crisis.

Al-Wazir Inspects Fatah Forces in Al-Biqa'

JN091644 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolutionary forces, inspected the Al-'Asifah forces in the Al-Biqa' and Ba'labakk regions during the past 2 days. Brother Abu Jihad also presided over a meeting of Fatah military and political cadres at the command headquarters of the Al-Karamah forces in the presence of Major 'Ala' ad-Din Husni, commander of Al-Karamah Forces.

During this meeting, Brother Abu Jihad presented a lengthy review of the political situation and the results of the contacts and meetings of the six-man committee, which was set up by the PLO Executive Committee to resolve the existing problems with Syria. He also familiarized the cadres with the results of the Fatah Central Committee meetings in Tunis. Brother Abu Jihad affirmed that the Fatah movement supports the six-man committee's efforts, and encourages all initiatives to spare Palestinian blood and to direct unified Palestinian efforts against the Zionist enemy. This, he said, is the only field to which the Fatah movement devotes all its struggle and combat efforts without hesitation. Brother Jihad also affirmed that all Fatah fighters are determined, ready, and have clear orders to defend their positions against any attack from any side.

PFLP's Habash Returns From Bulgarian Visit

LD092243 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1602 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] PFLP Secretary General George Habash has ended his visit to Bulgaria, which was described by a member of the delegation as fruitful and beneficial. During his stay in Bulgaria, George Habash was received by Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee.

After the visit a joint Palestinian-Bulgarian statement was issued, in which the two sides stressed that peace in the Middle East region could not be achieved without with the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to return to their homeland, self-determination,and the establishment of their independent national state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The statement strongly denounced the continuation of the Israeli aggression against Arab peoples and U.S. imperialism's military expansion in the Middle East region.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Receives Iranian Message

GF091420 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1207 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Manama, 9 Jul (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah received a message from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today.

It was said that the message deals with the appointment of 'Abbas Shokuhi as charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Premier Rejects Parliament's Anti-U.S. Proposals

LD091222 Kuwait KUNA in English 1002 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, July 9 (KUNA) — H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'd al-'Abdallah asserted Saturday the similar evaluation by the executive and legislative bodies of the U.S. attitude regarding Arab causes and stated that the Kuwaiti Government was seeking the best means to deal with this regrettable U.S. stand. [as received]

In a statement published by the media Saturday, the prime minister replied to a report by the National Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee which recommended severance of diplomatic relations with Washington in retaliation for America's biased stand in support of Israel.

"Such measure", Sheikh Sa'd told the legislatures, "will be passive and often brings about reactions which are contrary to the aspired goal besides that it leaves the arena free before forces antagonist to the Arab nation."

The premier said many states had renounced this measure in favor of political realities and noted that diplomatic relations are maintained even between countries at war such as had been the case of India and Pakistan at the height of their dispute which eventually led to the creation of Bangladesh.

Sheikh Sa'd underlined that any measure against the U.S. will not be effective unless carried by an Arab consensus, "an aim", he said, "Kuwait is striving to attain."

On another parliamentary recommendation for withdrawal of Kuwait funds from U.S. banks, the prime minister cautioned that such a step "will be very grave for the country's supreme interests," since he said "Kuwaiti investments there represent one of the main sources of revenue", and described the West's power to absorb investments as reaping Kuwait positive results.

Expounding the country's investment policy, Sheikh Sa'd reiterated that it is based on "spreading such investments over the most secure areas with equitable returns."

A third recommendation included in the Foreign Relations Committee's report that Kuwait stop oil supplies to the U.S. was also shunned by the government. "The U.S.," the premier stated, "is not an importer of Kuwaiti crude and the little it imports, if stopped, will not have any effect nor bring any pressure to bear on America."

Sheikh Sa'd reminded the assembly that Kuwait has been at the head of callers for the oil embargo of 1973, when Arab unanimity at the time was effective and influential.

Official Responds to Iranian Hijack Allegations

GF101414 Kuwait Al-Qabas in Arabic 9 Jul 83 p 1

[Excerpt] A responsible source told *Al-Qabas* that Kuwait allowed the hijacked Iranian plane to land at Kuwait International Airport for humanitarian reasons. He said: At first, we refused a request by the hijackers to land and the plane left Kuwait's airspace for Baghdad which also refused it permission to land. The source added: We then allowed the plane to land, because we knew that it was in need of fuel and that it was carrying children, women, and old people.

Regarding Iranian allegations of Kuwait's involvement with Saudi Arabia, France, and the United States in the operation, he said: We knew nothing about the hijacked Iranian plane before its arrival in Kuwaiti airspace and its request to land at the airport. He said: We do not want to enter into bickering or a war of words with Iranian officials, because we have become accustomed to provocative Iranian statements both before and since the war.

Further Statement on Hijacking

GF091027 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0958 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Jul (WAKH) — A ministerial source has asserted that Kuwait will not allow any hijacked aircraft to land on its territory in implementation of the policy it has been following for years.

In a statement published in today's issue of the Kuwaiti newspaper *Ar-Ra'y Al-'Amm*, the source said the authorities allowed the hijacked Iranian airliner to land in the airport "for humane reasons" when the hijackers told the control tower that they must land for refuelling and out of concern for the safety of the 371 passengers and crew. The source praised the wisdom of the Kuwaiti negotiators who brought about the release of 186 passengers.

Meanwhile, Ya'qub as-Saqr, deputy director of the Kuwaiti Civil Aviation Department, affirmed that the landing of the hijacked Iranian airliner "relatively affected" the airport traffic, since the airport experienced unusually heavy traffic as a result of the exodus of residents. "However, all these difficulties were overcome and work returned to normal after we increased the number of shift employees and work arrangements in an organized manner according to the preset plan for emergency situations," he said.

Ya'qub lauded the efforts and measures which were taken to ensure the travel of those who were delayed due to the landing of the hijacked airliner.

OMAN

Iranian Helicopter Lands; Pilots Arrested

GF100650 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0610 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Muscat, 10 Jul (WAKH) — It has been learned from Muscat that a Sea (?Stallion) helicopter belonging to the Iranian naval force touched down illegally yesterday in the Fuhud region in the Sultanate of Oman.

In a statement broadcast by Omani television yesterday, a spokesman for the Omani police noted that the helicopter carried two pilots, Captain Mohammad Hamdi Zouri and Captain Javadi 'Ali 'Abadi. The spokesman stated that the Omani police arrested the two pilots once their helicopter touched down. The pilots have been imprisoned and will stand trial on charges of entering the country by force and illegally.

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Leaders Extend 'Id al-Fitr Greetings

King Fahd Address

LD102322 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2200 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Mecca, 10 Jul (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has made the following address on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr. The text is as follows:

In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Peace and the blessings of God be upon the last of the prophets and upon his family and companions.

Brothers and sisters, I greet you with the greeting of Islam — the greeting of compassion, love, and peace. On the advent of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr I pray to Almighty God that He grant us and the entire Muslim nation a return of good fortune, victory, and support, and that He accept from the Muslims their fasting and prayers.

Brothers, dispersal of attitudes and differences of views in the Islamic nation have led to weakness and lack of strength, and have enabled its enemy to breach its ranks, and demolish its fortifications. And here holy Jerusalem, the place from which the revered Prophet made his flight to heaven — the third holiest mosque — is still succumbing under the claws of the tyrant enemy. Here are our brothers, the sons of the holy land, wandering in every valley because the forces of injustice were able to occupy their homeland. And here is the Arab and Muslim man going in circles after losing or almost losing his way along the right path. There is no doubt that this has been the inevitable result of disunity, quarrels, and turning away from the teachings of our Lord and the Sunnah of His Prophet, God's peace and blessing be upon Him, particularly in our times, which are full of sedition, and in which the nations are fighting one another, and all values have been lost. Let us, therefore, make out of this illustrious occasion an opportunity to sincerely return to the clear fountainhead, to the straight path of God, and to the tolerant teachings of Islam so that the Islamic nation may regain its strength and prowess and be worthy of bearing the truth — correcting the human course under the banner of faith for the sake of protecting right and justice, and championing the cause of the weak on this earth. God will, in abundant measure, aid those who aid His cause. [Koranic verse] Peace and the blessings of God be upon you.

Prince Sultan Address

LD110059 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2220 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, 10 Jul (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, has conveyed his good wishes to the Saudi Armed Forces on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr.

His royal highness hoped that, God willing, before this festival comes around again the first qiblah and the third holiest mosque would be liberated.

Here is the text of the address:

Brothers and colleagues, how I wish that our joy on the advent of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr could be complete, with our Arab and Muslim nation united, its wounds healed, and its differences overlooked. How I wish that we had the peace of mind and consolation that comes from seeing Arab efforts united in repelling the aggression to which our nation is exposed, defeating the aggressors, cleansing the shrines of Islam of the filth of the usurping Zionists, and liberating the first qiblah and the third holiest mosque from the conspiracies of Judaization and the occupiers' encroachments upon and arrogance against the wishes of the Muslims there, who perform the rites of the faith in accordance with the instruction of God. However, there is no way one can avert God's will and judgment.

I stress to you the eager desire of your believing command, headed by His Exalted Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, to do the utmost and spare nothing to heal the rift, unite the ranks, discard disunion, and enlist the energies of the Arab and Muslim nation to confront the hateful Zionist danger, which has begun to threaten our national entity and the future of our people.

The ideal way to defeat the dangers which surround our Arab world today is to return to God's way and adhere to His teachings, which call for cooperation, unity, vigilance, awareness, and perception of the aims of the divine message whose banner you bear.

On this blessed occasion I will not forget to greet the struggle of our brothers and honorable fighters in Palestine and Afghanistan — the Islamic mujahidin — who have been waging epic battles with their noble blood and humble means against the forces of tyranny and evil to uphold the Islamic faith and protect the Islamic shrines. We salute them on this occasion and we pray to God to grant mercy and forgiveness, and reward their martyrs. Do not think of those who are slain in God's way as dead: Nay, they live, finding their sustenance in the presence of their Lord. [Koranic verse] We pray to God that He guide their steps to what is right and crown their jihad with the great victory.

In conclusion, I wish you a happy 'Id and days full of joy and delight, and hope that it comes round many times in future years. We have already realized all our dear homeland's and our noble Saudi people's aspirations, and the hopes they pin on their sons, the men of the Armed Forces. I also pray to God to grant the realization of all our hopes for the progress, prosperity, and well-being of our beloved country and of our two Arab and Islamic nations under the auspices of the one who implements God's laws, Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Many happy returns on this day.

Prince 'Abdallah Statement

LD102338 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2210 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] At Ta'if, 10 Jul (SPA) — 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, has made a statement on the occasion of the onset of 'Id al-Fitr. Here is the text of his statement:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Prayers and peace be upon the noblest of missionaries.

Brother citizens, my sons and brothers in the Armed Forces, peace be upon you, together with the benediction and blessings of God. It pleases me on this solemn occasion to congratulate you on your fasting in the month of holy Ramadan and the happy 'Id al-Fitr. I do this wondering how we welcome our feasts year after year in a world where territories are invaded and the road is wide open to the rule of force. We the nation of the Arabs and Muslims, what should we do and where is our place among nations? I ask this question and wonder as every other Arab and Muslim wonders.

From my position, I blame no one. We are, however, all required to pause and meditate so as to define our place in history and our stand on events. An incidental address like this cannot build on the road of the nation landmarks, which can be built only through pooling efforts and confronting the dangers and challenges of the present stage through solidarity and determination. We are capable of meeting this challenge with the assistance of God.

Brothers: Because we in Saudi Arabia are part of this nation we have tried and will continue to try by every good means to unify the ranks and words of the Arabs: This is our duty and we will never tire of it. This is a firm policy founded by the creator of our modern Kingdom, His Majesty King 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God bless him, and taken over from him today by our commander in chief, His Majesty Brother Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God protect him. In performing our duty at this stage and time we are inspired by our holy religion and the interest of our nation.

Brothers: We Arabs and Muslims are fully responsible before God, before the nation, and history for what we are seeing: aggression against right, contempt of truth, and the violation of rights. The cause of this is basically the fact that we are wasting our energies in marginal combats and disputes, and being preoccupied with one another at a time of decision. This provides our enemies and the superpowers with the occasion to fulfill their interests and plans at the expense of our destiny.

Today I urge all the sons of this nation, peoples, and leaders to unify ranks and utilize our potential for the realization of salvation. Let us realize that history does not show mercy, that generations do not forgive, and that we are all bound to go, as fates are laid down in advance. Likewise, every good act is rewarded and every action has a fixed objective. Peace be upon you, together with the benediction and blessings of God.

Education Minister Returns With Al-Asad Reply

LD102102 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2030 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Mecca, 10 Jul (SPA) — Minister of Education Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir returned to Mecca this evening from Damascus after a brief visit to Syria during which he delivered a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who handed him a reply for King Fahd.

UAE

Presidential Decrees Appoint New Ministers

GF081448 Doha QNA in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 8 Jul (QNA) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan issued two federal decrees on ministerial changes in the present cabinet that is being headed by UAE Vice President Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktun. The decrees involve the appointment of seven new ministers and relieve two ministers from their posts.

According to the first decree, Mr Sayf 'Ali al-Jarwan is appointed minister of economy and trade, Mr Fadil al-Mazru'i as minister of education, Mr Khalfan Muhammad ar-Rumi as minister of labor and social affairs, Mr 'Abdallah Hamid al-Mazru'i as minister of justice, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Hasan al-Khazraji as minister of Islamic affairs and awqaf, Mr Ahmad Hamid at-Ta'ir as minister of state for financial and industrial affairs, and Shaykh Hamid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla as minister of planning.

The second decree relieves Mr Sa'id Salman from his post as minister of education and Mr Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman al-Bakr from his post as minister of justice, Islamic affairs and awqaf.

The QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi has reported that with this change all ministerial portfolios in the cabinet have been filled except for the portfolio of the Foreign Ministry which has been vacant since the resignation of Mr Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi in 1980.

Swearing-in Ceremony

GF100938 Doha QNA in Arabic 0915 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 10 Jul (QNA) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has called on the new cabinet members to exert further efforts in the direction of providing for the well-being of the UAE people and enhancing the procession and progress of the union.

In a speech to the ministers after the swearing-in ceremony, President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyansaid that since the establishment of the UAE this country has had no animosity toward anyone, and that he hopes the country's achievements will be multiplied.

YAR

President Receives Message From Andropov

GF091422 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, foreign minister and member of the standing committee, today received [name indistinct], the Soviet charge d'affaires in San'a', who delivered to him a message addressed to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov.

Mubarak Discusses Foreign, Domestic Policy

NC091629 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today met with the press leaderships. Attending the meeting were chairmen of the newspapers' boards of directors; the chief editors of the national newspapers; Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din; Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Consultative Council speaker and chairman of the press higher council; Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif; Dr Usamah al-Baz, head of the Presidential Office for Foreign Affairs; and Dr Mamduh al-Bultaji, head of the information authority.

Following the meeting, Safwat ash-Sharif said President Mubarak expounded on foreign policy, Egypt's recent moves, and the internal national action issues. Mubarak was concerned with giving a full picture of these fields. He stressed the need for the people to know all the facts from their press.

Mubarak said Egypt is for all the Egyptians and not for one writer, whoever he may be. Egypt is for all Egyptians alike.

The information minister pointed out that President Mubarak discussed the Arab relations, the development of the Lebanese problem, the circumstances of the conflict within the PLO ranks, and Egypt's views on these issues. He also dealt with the talks held with French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson and with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. He also reviewed Egypt's stand on the African and Chadian problems.

Speaking on foreign policy, Mubarak said Egypt will not involve its army in any military action outside Egypt's borders. He said Egypt's army has its national tasks. He stressed that in all its international and Arab relations, Egypt has its will and pride and will not allow them to be damaged under any circumstances. He said Egypt always rises above trivialities and does not indulge in recriminations. Egypt bears in mind the supreme interests of its people and its Arab nation. He said Egypt shoulders a national [qawmiyah] responsibility toward the Palestinian cause. Concluding his remarks on foreign policy, Mubarak stressed the need for the Egyptian information media to be realistic and logical, to care for the Egyptian and Arab interests, and to be consistent with Egypt's magnitude, values, and leadership. He said the Egyptian information media must be fair and unprejudiced, and reflect Egypt's views and real image, both inside and out.

Ash-Sharif further said that President Mubarak also dealt with the internal national action issues, saying we are in a stage of development and construction in which a suitable and healthy social atmosphere must be secured for the goals to be achieved. He said the information media must play an objective role while dealing positively or negatively with the national action policies and the issues of the homeland and citizens.

President Mubarak pointed to the problems, plans, and goals, saying the problems from which the citizens are suffering and which we must confront are great. He said these problems have been accumulated over scores of years. We, however, are determined to confront them with radical solutions. This determination can be fulfilled through the 5-year development plan, which has clear goals of economic and social development and promotion of utilities and services. This plan is based on comprehensive solutions and not on hasty palliative remedies. Thus, he added, we may suffer from marginal effects while the all-embracing solutions are being implemented. This is better than the palliatives that do not tackle the roots of the problems but postpone them for the later years. We must benefit from our past experience in confronting problems by palliatives.

On the internal national action, President Mubarak said: My method is clarity and publicity in making my decisions, with the people's participation and interest. He said: It is not my policy to make changes without aims because this does not serve the nation's interests. Therefore, there will be no change for the sake of change only. The government has a plan and it shoulders the responsibility of implementing it. He said stability must be achieved. He said the press and information media must follow up the government plan and publish for public opinion the truth and facts with all their negative and positive aspects, in the people's interest.

Mubarak Congratulates Mongolia's Tsedenbal

NC101048 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of congratulations to Tsedenbal, chairman of the presidium of the Mongolian People's Republic, on the anniversary of Mongolia's people's revolution. Following is the text of the cable:

On the occasion of your celebration of the people's revolution anniversary, it pleases me to send heartfelt congratulations to Your Excellency. I wish you good health and happiness, and your friendly people further progress and prosperity. With my highest regards and appreciation.

Mubarak Sends Cable to Saddam on Brother's Death

NC110518 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2155 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of condolences to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on the death of his brother. The cable reads: I have learned with extreme regret of the death of your brother. Please accept my sincere condolences for yourself and your dear family. I implore God to grant grace to the dear departed and to guard you and your fraternal people from all evil.

Bahraini Paper: Mubarak Refuses To Meet Begin

GF081118 Manama Akhbar al-Khalij in Arabic 8 Jul 83 p 1

[Report by *Akhbar al-Khalij* correspondent]

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has rejected Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's request to meet with him at any place President Mubarak specifies. President Mubarak made this decision based on his fear that Israel might be preparing to carry out a military action and any meeting at this time would have Egypt appear as having had advance knowledge of such a military action, especially in light of the situation in Al-Biqa' in particular and in Lebanon in general.

'Ali: Egypt Will Send No Troops to Chad

NC110503 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jul (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has emphasized that there are no Egyptian forces in Chad, that Egypt did not send a single soldier to Chad, that there is absolutely no intention to send Egyptian forces there, and that reports about the presence of Egyptian forces in Chad are completely untrue.

In a comprehensive evaluation to the *May* newspaper to be published tomorrow, the foreign minister said that the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel will take place at the appropriate time, and that the nomination of a new Egyptian ambassador to any foreign capital takes time.

On the joint U.S.-Egyptian exercises scheduled for August, the foreign minister said that they are aimed at raising the Army's skill in the use of U.S. weapons, which constitute the backbone of the Egyptian Army's armament.

Ghali on Egyptian Efforts To Solve Lebanon Crisis

NC082030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali maintains that holding an Arab summit conference to discuss the Lebanese issue is apt, at present, to exacerbate the hardliners' positions and complicate the problem instead of helping to solve it. Ghali believes that Reagan's plan remains the final card that is likely to succeed. Ghali made this statement in an interview which will be published tomorrow in the *Al-Usbu' al-'Arabi* magazine.

He said that in order for an Arab summit to bear fruit, it should be preceded by an implicit agreement between Lebanon and Syria. The summit can then ratify this bilateral agreement. However, Dr Ghali thinks that it is absolutely impossible for a summit to lead to an agreement between Lebanon and Syria.

In reply to a question about the fear of a Syrian-Israeli war breaking out or of Lebanon being partitioned among the foreign occupation forces, Ghali said: I am optimistic by nature. I think that we will be able to reach a solution. However, we must not underestimate either the difficulties or the Arab states' will to reach a comprehensive solution to the Middle East crisis. We have a precedent now — that is, the Israeli-Egyptian agreement. We also have a second precedent, the agreement signed between Lebanon and Israel. If everyone makes the necessary efforts, we will be able to reach similar agreements in the not so distant future.

If a war does take place, our position is firm and unchangeable — we are against all sorts of divisions in Lebanon. We call for the integrity of the Lebanese territory, the unity of Lebanon. We support the government of President al-Jumayyil, which is the sole legitimate government in Lebanon. We support it with all the power at our disposal in the international organizations, the international conferences, and in our bilateral relations with the various world powers.

Ghali added: We maintain direct contacts with most officials in the Arab world. We are trying to undertake a joint diplomatic action for peace. We conduct daily contacts with Washington. We held very important contacts with the West European countries before the Stuttgart conference. We tried to secure a collective diplomatic action from the 10 states that would narrow the differences in views between Lebanon and Syria and would establish a dialogue between them. We may not have been successful in fully achieving the desired objective, but this will not prevent us from continuing our efforts in the same direction with the Western countries. Our aim is to avoid stagnation and forgetfulness.

We are afraid that something unexpected will happen in the world that will prevent continued total attention being given to the Middle East crisis and will push it to a secondary position. For these reasons, we are intensifying our contacts and reminding people of the importance of the Middle East crisis, of the existing link between the Lebanese issue and the Palestinian issue, and of the possibility of a confrontation taking place in the area that could threaten world peace and security.

MENA Reports Ghali Interview

NC091641 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Beirut, 9 Jul (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stressed that Egypt is against all types of partition in Lebanon, and it calls for the Lebanese people's unity and territorial integrity and for supporting Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's government as the legitimate government in Lebanon.

In an interview given to the Lebanese weekly *Al-Usbu' al-'Arabi* to be published Monday, Ghali said Egypt supports the Lebanese Government with all the power it has in the international organizations, in international conferences, and in its bilateral relations with the various world powers. Ghali pointed out that Egyptian diplomacy is not bound by a specific peace plan, and that it is prepared to consider any other plan, be it convening an international conference with the Soviet Union's participation, or reconsidering the proposals made by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu or late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev. Dr Ghali expressed the hope that a solution to the Lebanese crisis will be reached, but he noted that the difficulties facing the Lebanese problem must not be underestimated. [passage indistinct]

Numayri Departs for Home After 2-Week Visit

NC091019 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0950 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Alexandria, 9 Jul (MENA) — Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri left Alexandria for home this morning at the end of a customary yearly 2-week visit to Egypt.

During his visit President Numayri held two discussions with President Husni Mubarak, during which a number of important Arab and African questions were discussed.

President and Mrs Husni Mubarak headed those who bade farewell to President and Mrs Numayri at the airport.

Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din; People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib; Consultative Council Chairman Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah; Reconstruction Minister Hasaballah al-Kafrawi; Alexandria Governor Fawzi Mu'adh; and political, executive, and popular leaders from the Alexandria Governorate also were also at the airport to bid farewell to President Numayri.

Sudanese People's Assembly Speaker Departs

NC101034 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1029 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jul (MENA) — Sudanese People's Assembly Speaker Dr 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid left here this morning for London following a 5-day visit to Cairo.

During his visit, the Sudanese official held talks with senior Egyptian officials on the means of consolidating cooperative relations between both countries within the framework of their integration.

Tourism, Aviation Minister Departs for Paris

NC081126 Cairo MENA in English 0950 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, July 8 (MENA) — Egyptian Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Tawfiq 'Abduh Isma'il left here today for Paris, on the start of a six day tour of France and the United States.

Before leaving, he said the tour is designed to obtain full information on the offers of some European and American aircraft manufacturers to supply alternative aircraft to the Boeing 707.

During his visit to the United States, the Egyptian official will attend the third international conference on aviation education. He will address the conference on the relation between aviation and tourism.

AL-AHRAM Discusses Syria's Stand in Lebanon

PM080936 Cairo Al-Ahram in Arabic 30 Jun 83 p 7

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi's article: "Dialogue With the Syrian Mind"]

[Excerpts] Syrian rejection of anything that Damascus believes does not agree with its stand has reached such an extent as to cause the complicated situations in Syria, Lebanon, and the PLO to become entangled and intertwined like "snakes," as Britain's weekly *The Economist* put it. In a situation like this dialogue should be given priority in the hope that the Syrian Government will have a last chance to review its policies toward Lebanon, praticularly if Syria realizes the dangers implicit in its stand.

Obviously the Syrian Government has its own views regarding the agreement reached between Lebanon and Israel with the participation of the United States. It also has many "demands" vis-a-vis the United States and Lebanon which it wants to achieve before it drops its objection to the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. This was one of the reasons why Damascus intervened in PLO affairs — so that the organization too will remain a "hostage" of the Syrian stand and so that the organization will be unable to play any positive or independent role in the peace process.

Thus what happened in the wake of the Israeli invasion once again, unfortunately, confirms that the alliances on which the PLO relied were the alliances that let it down.

Before discussing the Syrian stand, the subject of this article, we must point out Lebanon's view of the agreement between Beirut and Tel Aviv. President Amin al-Jumyail was the first to say that he had apprehensions about the outcome of the agreement, which is not a victory but a price which Lebanon has paid and a way to contain damages.

Lebanon, which the Arab countries left alone to face the consequences of Israeli invasion, had to choose between 50,000 Israeli soldiers remaining on its territory or 50 Israeli observers in the south for a specific period of time until conditions in Lebanon enable the agreement to be amended.

This is not meant to be in defense of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, but it is only fair to say that, although the agreement has loopholes, it is in its entirety an expression of the balances of power in the area and a reflection of the state of affairs in the Arab nation. It is unimportant to talk about the loopholes here because the Arab states can plug them if they are able to reorganize their state of affairs and, through consensus, strike a better course, particularly if Syria shows cooperation in this regard. What gives rise to hope here is that the agreement, according to its provisions, can be amended after 2 years. The Lebanese Government may ask for Arab help in this regard.

The first thing to be pointed out here is that neither Syria nor the Arab countries were surprised by the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Indeed the surprise was the Syrian stand in rejecting the agreement, because obviously the Arab governments believed that there was no problem involving the withdrawal of the Syrian forces or other non-Lebanese forces. It is the Lebanese Government's right to end the presence of any forces that do not belong to it on its own territory. It was this government that, in accordance with a general Arab decision, asked for the entry of the Syrian forces following the developments of the civil war in Lebanon. Thus it becomes obvious that the Syrian stand has become a subject of negotiations and is therefore expressing a new idea that was not taken into consideration before and did not appear to be so last month. It is presented on the grounds that the presence of the Syrian forces in Lebanon is an important card being used for the achievement of Syria's demand with regard to negotiations to settle the Middle East problem.

The first thing Syria wants is that Reagan's administration should offer specific guarantees, foremost of which is to turn the Syrian-Lebanese understanding into an agreement with a U.S. undertaking declaring that the Golan Heights should be taken into consideration in any negotiations on Arab lands occupied by Israel. While Damascus wants Washington to take the next step, the U.S. Government wants the initiative to come from Syria, particularly since the United States implicitly and strongly recognizes that Security Council Resolution 242 is applicable to all fronts, including the Syrian front, and that such a provision is also included within the Camp David framework.

In fact the U.S. Government has ignored Syria for a long time and did not exploit the opportunities offered to it by the Arab stands, particularly after the Fes Arab peace plan. The Arab heads of state in fact expanded the committee charged with explaining the plan to the Western governments to include Syria, which sought to join the committee and was happy to do so in the hope of initiating a bilateral dialogue with the United States. But the U.S. Government ignored this just as it ignored the PLO. By the same token Syria's persistence in playing the role of opposing the United States is responsible for this result, despite the admission by the Syrian Government, like other governments, that the cards for solving the problem are in U.S. hands.

What Syria is now saying through its officials — that the United States must shed the illusion that it can impose anything on the area — cannot change that belief.

Since Syria so believes, why does the Syrian Government not begin negotiations, especially with Lebanon, which is the key to the situation. Damascus must examine this carefully despite what it says — that the ball now is in the U.S. court and that the next step should come from Washington.

One of the major contradictions is probably that while the Syrian Government is adopting this negotiating stand toward the United States, it is still clearly seeking a comprehensive solution for the Middle East problem at an international conference as proposed by the Soviet Union in late President Brezhnev's initiative in the hope that Moscow will have a role in the settlement. Damascus is forgetting that events have overtaken this idea, which was possible up to 1977, and that the reason for this is the overt and covert conflict between Washington and Moscow, a conflict in which Damascus is totally aligned with Moscow.

Nevertheless, Damascus wants a pledge from the Reagan administration that it will give up its attempts to strike at the Syrian regime. The Syrian Government has strong fears that the United States, in cooperation with some of its neighbors, is seeking to isolate Syria. These fears are among the reasons for Syria's rejection of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and, consequently, of withdrawing from Lebanon under the circumstances.

Syria has a natural right to seek to defend its interests under an agreement that promotes relations between two countries with geographical and historical relations that cannot be ignored and which demand that both countries agree clearly on the future of these relations, which must be governed by diplomatic relations between two independent states, each enjoying sovereignty on its territory. Thus Syria's fear of the development of the situation in Lebanon will be removed because an independent and united Lebanon is a support for Syria's independence and unity.

To sum up, Syria believes it has an interest in playing a major role in the peace process, and, despite an intensive Soviet presence in Syria, there is a school of thought in the United States that considers Syria a factor for stability in the Middle East to such an extent that the United States was the first to support the entry of Syrian forces into Lebanon as a peace-keeping force.

It is difficult to imagine that Syria is unaware of the dangers surrounding the area because of the continued present situation in Lebanon or to imagine that it wants to be historically responsible for the consequences of the present stalemate, which will not only affect Lebanon but will also extend to Syria and Jordan and, consequently, change the map of the whole Arab East.

One of the first obvious dangers is that the stalemate will lead to the continuation of Israeli occupation of Lebanon and the occupation will adapt to the new conditions which are suitable to Israel's objectives. One of these objectives is to spread chaos by encouraging fighting among the conflicting parties, particularly in the absence of a strong central government, so that Israel will have southern Lenanon for itself. The Israeli leaders' talk about the redeployment of Israeli forces is but an introduction to this end.

The second danger, which is more important for all the Arabs, is that the continuation of the Lebanese crisis will overshadow the tragedy of the West Bank and Gaza and their final annexation by Israel, which is Israel's greatest dream. It was for this reason that Israel rejected Reagan's initiative from the first moment it was announced in September and procrastinated over withdrawal from Lebanon before Shultz' recent tour of the area. Israel's aim is to throw away every opportunity to resume the discussion of the basic problem in the conflict. It must be said here frankly and clearly that the continued presence of non-Lebanese forces in Lebanon will make the Palestinian problem the first victim of this situation. If the parties concerned with the situation in Lebanon do not return to the right path as quickly as possible the situation in the West Bank and Gaza will evolve into what Israel desires, namely the West Bank will be completely Judaized and there will be nothing left to negotiate on.

Another danger connected with this situation is the apparent change in the U.S. Administration's stand because of its despair of any positive move by the Arab side. It is a known fact that there is disagreement between Washington and Tel Aviv only when there are negotiations between the United States and the Arab side. But in the absence of such negotiations the special relations between the United States and Israel are ruling supreme. The same thing can be said about the relations between Israel and the lobbying centers in Washington and other Western capitals. The Arab stand has led to lessening of the conflict between the Jews of the Western world and Israel which emerged at the end of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and especially the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

Evidence of this change is to be found in what U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said recently — that the Arab countries have proved incompetent or unwilling to cooperate with the United States in the quest for peace while the Israelis have once again shown that they are ready to establish peace by toning down their demands. He also said that Israel is confronting blatant Soviet aggression and that it is the only state that can be relied upon in the Middle East.

Have all these dangers escaped Syria's notice or does Syria wish to see the outcome of these dangers and be historically responsible for it? Reason rejects this outright. It refuses to see Syria being the cause of delay in reaching solutions leading to a comprehensive and just settlement. It refuses to see Syria being responsible for the dangers of "balkanization" of the entire Arab east. And finally it refuses to see Syria being responsible for keeping the Palestinian problem a hostage of its own policies.

Syria can begin negotiations, particularly since various preliminary attempts have been made in this regard. The Arab world does not expect Syria's next step, whose beginnings lie in negotiations with Lebanon, to remain confined to the narrow issue of withdrawl of all the non-lebanese forces from Lebanon but also to pave the way to dealing with the major problem, which is the Palestinian problem.

This is the responsibility of Syria, Lebanon, and the whole Arab community which, through a strong united stand, should define the framework of agreement between the two countries [Syria and Lebanon] and warn them both of the dangers of continuing with the present situation, a situation that will not find any support from the Arab peoples.

Communiques Report 8-10 July War Actions

Communique No 1,146

JN081646 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,146 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 8 July 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In defense of beloved Iraq and the gains of its pioneering revolution, the proud Iraqi people are continuing their incessant offerings and valiant activities against the forces of the rancorous Iranian enemy. The results of yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Yesterday morning a group of enemy troops tried to approach one of our forward units' positions in the northern sector of the battlefield. Our forces pounded the troops with all sorts of weapons and forced them to flee, leaving behind five killed. The enemy also sustained three killed in another place in the same sector.

2. Two were killed and two infantry positions and one observation post were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

3. One was killed and one armored personnel carrier, three infantry positions, three hardware stockpiles, and one four-barreled machinegun destroyed east of Basra.

4. Today the vile Khomeyniite clique shelled Mandali and Zurbatiyah and their suburbs with artillery, damaging and setting on fire some civilian establishments and orchards.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 July 1983

Communique No 1,147

JN091650 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,147 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 9 July 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The glorious Iraqis, while fighting the reckless Iranian enemy in defense of their great revolution, their honor, and their country's security, reaffirm their determination and firmness to give further sacrifices and score victories. The following are the results for last night and today:

1. Our forward units pounded a group of enemy personnel opposite their positions in the northern operational sector, killing three and wounding others. Yesterday, one of our combat units managed to destroy an enemy observation post and to kill its occupants in the same sector.

2. Yesterday and today, fresh batches of Iranian soldiers sought refuge with our forward units in the Maysan and central operational sectors to escape the persecution and suppression of the bloody Khomeyniite regime. They were removed safely to the rear. Also, our units killed four enemy personnel, and destroyed one vehicle carrying personnel, one infantry position, one hardware stockpile, and one antiaircraft machinegun in other areas of the aforementioned sectors.

3. One was killed in the area east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 July 1983

Communique No 1,148

JN101731 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1640 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,148 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 10 July 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our heroic Armed Forces will continue their valiant activities against the forces of the rancorous Iranian enemy, inflicting further ground, sea, and air losses. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our heroic Naval Forces this morning discovered some enemy naval targets trying to enter Bandar-e Khomeyni in the northeastern part of the Arab Gulf. Our valiant naval units and bold naval aircraft attacked them and managed at 0824 [0424 GMT] and 0830 today to destroy three of these naval targets. The rest of the enemy naval targets fled in panic, trying to avoid our Naval Force's fire. Thus, our valiant Naval Force has confirmed its full control over the prohibited zone in the Arab Gulf — a zone fixed in our previous communiques and statements. All our naval units and helicopters returned safely to base, thanks be to God.

2. A force belonging to our forward units raided enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield. It clashed with the enemy troops and pounded them with various weapons, forcing them to flee their positions, leaving behind 12 killed. One machinegun and one infantry position were destroyed.

3. Some Iranian military men, fleeing the persecution and tyranny of the ruling clique in Iran, today sought refuge with our forward units in the area east of Basra. They were safely evacuated to the rear. One infantry position and one hardware stockpile were also destroyed in the same sector. The occupants of the infantry position were killed.

4. One person was killed, and one vehicle loaded with hardware, one infantry position, and one hardware stockpile destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. Today the clique of evil and aggression shelled Basra and Qurahtu with artillery. The savage shelling demolished seven houses and one school and damaged some civilian establishments in Qurahtu.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 July 1983

President Receives Donations for War Effort

JN081656 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jul (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has asked the frustrated rulers of Tehran and Qom to see Iraq as it really is so that they may not add fresh frustrations to their previous failures. In a speech during a reception held for a number of men and women who contributed ornaments and funds toward the war effort in Baghdad today, the president called on the Iranian rulers to have some sanity so that they can live within the framework they have drawn up for themselves. The president said: I am certain that a large number of them have seen their frustration. Some of them want to overcome this frustration and some others find difficulty facing the truth. Eventually, they will realize the truth. This will not take long.

The president reaffirmed Iraq's ability to ward off evil and the ill wind blowing from the east and to remain prosperous and proud of its ancient and modern history. The president said: There is Iraq for everyone to see; for the Arabs and the non-Arabs. We say Arabs because we want them to see their new Iraq which does not argue with them over gains and which will never harm them. Iraq always makes sacrifices and does not [words indistinct] and does not peep from behind closed doors.

The president also said: I want some Arabs to see how the Iraqi women offer their ornaments so that they may be ashamed of themselves when they see this and so that they may remove from their hearts and minds rancor, envy, and illegitimate competition, a sickness which has exhausted the Arab nation and humanity.

President Cables Reagan on U.S. National Day

JN101845 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] On the anniversary of the U.S. national day, President Saddam Husayn sent a cable of congratulations to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The following is the text of the cable:

Your Excellency Ronald Reagan, President of the United States: On the anniversary of your country's national day, I am pleased to send in my name, and on behalf of the Iraqi people, our good wishes to you and to the American people. We would like to use this opportunity to stress our desire to develop relations between our two countries and peoples on the basis of mutual respect and a joint desire to strengthen the principles of justice and peace in the world, and the respect of the will, independence, and [word indistinct] demands of all nations.

Despite the war, which was launched by the Iranian regime 3 years ago, Iraq's policy and positions remained firm and clear. Iraq has repeatedly called for efforts to safeguard peace in the region and in the world at large, and to try to strengthen that peace through the respect of the causes, decisions, independence, and national interests of all nations, as well as to adopt peaceful means for settling disputes among the states.

We wish you good health and happiness, and to your people, progress and prosperity.

Foreign Minister on Possible Husayn-Mubarak Meeting

LD091808 Kuwait KUNA in English 1128 GMT 9 July 83

[Text] London, July 9 (KUNA) — There is a possibility of a meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and President Husni Mubarak of Egypt, according to Iraqi Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

Speaking about the improving relations between Iraq and Egypt in an interview published Saturday in the London-based Arabic weekly magazine *At-Tadamun*, Aziz said the possibility of such a meeting existed "because each of them would like to meet the other."

He added that "Egypt's departure from the Arab fold constituted a strategic defeat that was reflected in the overall Arab conditions."

Explaining the recent rapprochement between the two countries in an interview given on the eve of his official visit to Cairo last Sunday, 'Aziz noted that the situation in the Arab world was different from 1978 and 1979 when the late Egyptian President Sadat had signed the Camp David agreement with Israel.

"Iraq today is convinced of the necessity of opening channels of contacts with Egypt," the foreign minister said.

But he denied that his country would take a unilateral step to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt.

'Aziz noted that President Husayn had suggested at the Arab summit meeting in Fes that a committee of foreign ministers be established to open a dialogue with Egypt.

Youth Minister Arrives in Moscow for Celebration

JN081123 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow, 8 Jul (INA) — Iraqi Youth Minister Ahmad Husayn as-Samarra'i arrived here today at the head of a delegation to participate in the friendship celebrations that will take place in the USSR on the occasion marking the 15th anniversary of the 17 July 1968 revolution.

These celebrations will be held in the Soviet capital, Moscow, and in Leningrad, the second largest city in the USSR, as well as in the Lithuanian Soviet Republic. The Folkloric Iraqi National Troupe arrived here to present some folklore activities as part of the celebration.

Briefs

Cuban, Brazilian Ambassadors — National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad today received Juan Carretero Ibanez on the latter's end of term in office as Cuban ambassador in Baghdad. Haddad also received (Samuel Agusto Alpez Korea) on the latter's assumption of his new post as Brazilian ambassador to Iraq. [Excerpts] [Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Jul 83 JN]

King Husayn Meets With PSP Leader Junblatt

JN091530 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Amman, 9 Jul (INA) — King Husayn of Jordan met here today with Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], now visiting Jordan. King Husayn and Junblatt reviewed the latest developments on the Arab and Lebanese arenas. The Jordanian monarch voiced Jordan's support for Lebanon's unity and its sovereignty over its national soil.

Government Decision on Entry of Lebanese Nationals

JN091554 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Amman, 9 Jul (INA) — The Jordanian Government, in a reciprocal measure, has decided that all Lebanese nationals must obtain approval from the Jordanian Ministry of Interior prior to their entry into Jordan.

It may be recalled that recently the Lebanese Government took measures saying all Jordanians who apply for entry visas to Lebanon through the Lebanese Embassy in Amman must obtain approval in advance from the competent Lebanese authorities.

Mudar Badran Leaves on Vacation Abroad

JN091634 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran left Amman today to spend the holiday of the happy 'Id al-Fitr abroad. A number of ministers saw him off at the airport. A royal decree has been issued appointing Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah acting prime minister and defense minister during the absence of the prime minister.

AR-RA'Y Discusses Failure of Shultz Mission

JN100950 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 10 Jul 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Shultz and the Riddle of the Failed Mission", *Ar-Ra'y* says: U.S. Secretary of State Shultz clearly and bravely admitted the failure of his recent mission in the region. Because no one knows what happened behind the scenes, particularly in Damascus, this easy admission of failure has one of two meanings.

1. Logic has risen above any other consideration in assessing the outcome of this mission. This assumes that what Secretary Shultz has stated regarding the mission's nature is in accordance with what happened behind the scenes.

2. Shultz wanted to separate himself from a future scenario that may appear in the region. So he announced in a loud voice that he had failed in order to exonerate himself from any connection between his mission and the possible scenario.

In neither case is the result reassuring. If the first meaning is confirmed, it does not imply that the U.S. Administration will benefit from the failure by avoiding its causes so it will not be repeated.

The causes of this failure are inherent in the U.S. policy in the region. This policy is dependent on the U.S.-Israeli document of understanding which has shaken and will continue to shake confidence in U.S. practices and, consequently, result in the failure of the missions of Shultz or any other U.S. official.

So far, there is no indication that the U.S. Administration has either the desire or the ability to amend its policy in the region.

Ar-Ra'y adds: If the second meaning is confirmed, it means that Shultz' mission accomplished something in secret and that he prefers to keep it a secret until it reveals itself. This means that Shultz has been involved in arranging future events.

The riddle of Shultz' failed mission in the region will certainly be disclosed some day. At any rate, the Arabs must not just wait for the outcome of missions carried out by others.

The Arabs must benefit from the lessons in a way that enables them to take the initiative and control events in their region in order to preserve their own future, regain their rights, and achieve their hopes for a just and durable peace, something that will be a proof of their nobility and seriousness.

Al-Jumayyil Receives Soviet Ambassador

NC091913 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil received Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov this evening and discussed with him, in the presence of Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, the general situation and developments.

Al-Wazzan Chairs Internal Security Council

NC081250 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan chaired a meeting of the Internal Security Council at 1300 today. The meeting was attended by Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus; Shaykh Kamil Ja'ja', Court of Cassation public prosecutor; Zahi al-Bustani, public security director general; Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, Internal Security Forces acting director general; Brigadier General 'Umar Makhzuni, Beirut Police Commander; Army Intelligence Chief Colonel Simon Qassis; and Beirut Governor Eng Mitri an-Nammar. The discussions during the meeting dealt with the implications of the incident to which the prime minister was subjected yesterday.

Al-Wazzan Makes Statement

NC081536 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] The Internal Security Council meeting which was held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister and Interior Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan ended this afternoon. The meeting reviewed the current security conditions and the result of the investigation into the assassination attempt to which the prime minister was subjected yesterday. Prime Minister al-Wazzan said the following to the correspondent of the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY:

[Begin recording] [Al-Wazzan] Our meeting with the Internal Security Council was for the purpose of discussing a number of accumulated matters, including the question of the detainees or the people held in custody, the cases of smuggling about which some members of the parliamentary defense committee spoke at a recent meeting and which were also raised by some merchants, and general security questions. Naturally, what the security organs have done recently in detaining some persons, either those who committed crimes or those who were found with explosives in their possession, was also the subject of study with a view to bolstering efforts in this respect. The Greater Beirut area, in which security is being bolstered day by day, must not suffer any setback. We want to strengthen these efforts in this area and outside it. We also listened to some demands by the security forces concerning administrative affairs and inter-departmental work among the various security organs. The meeting was useful. We took note of all the observations made by the security officials which are directed at promoting cooperation and utilizing these observations in favor of security in the country.

[Unidentified speaker] Mr Prime Minister, regarding what U.S. Secretary of State Shultz said yesterday about the failure of his mission in the Middle East, what is the Lebanese comment on this?

[Al-Wazzan] I would not like to call it a failure. If you remember what I said before his arrival and what he himself said — that he had come to explore the situation directly with us and with others concerned with the Lebanese issue and withdrawals from the Lebanese territory. Whoever remembers all this cannot call the matter a failure. He is just starting efforts in this direction, and these efforts must be continued. We, on our part, are also making efforts with all those concerned to facilitate our affair in a manner that will help rescue the Lebanese people from the Israeli occupation, which must not continue. Consequently, we are working constantly without despair to achieve this objective.

[Unidentified speaker] Two days ago you spoke about alternatives or threatened alternatives. What are these alternatives, Mr Prime Minister?

[Al-Wazzan] I did not threaten alternatives and I did not speak about alternatives. I said that when it becomes impossible for a person to reach his goal with the help of others, he must depend on himself and scratch his skin with his own fingernails. This is what I spoke about.

[Unidentified speaker] Regarding the explosion, Mr Prime Minister, it was announced that three persons have been detained. Has anything come to light as a result of the investigation?

[Al-Wazzan] The military investigator, Dr As'ad Diyab, has visited me and informed me of the first steps in the investigations and the reasons which led to the detention of these people. However, these are preliminary steps in the investigation. The investigation is not over, and further investigation will be necessary to give us the final facts. [end recording]

Al-Wazzan Discusses Withdrawals, Agreement

NC101328 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Excerpt] In a statement to visitors published today, the prime minister answered criticizers of his political line, particularly the speakers at Laylat al-Qadr night ceremony [night of the revelation of the Koran]. He touched on the issue of partial withdrawal and the background on the attempt on his life. He asserted that the rule is participation and not wrangle, because the previous examples were not in Lebanon's interests.

Al-Wazzan said: I do not rule out the possibility of an Israeli withdrawal from the mountain on an ad hoc basis, since no agreement has been reached for a Syrian withdrawal.

He said that this matter is a strong card in Israel's hands which it can use to influence world public opinion. He described the situation as grave if things remain as they are. He further said that the government is satisfied with the U.S.-Syrian agreement to form a dialogue committee.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan showed reservations before his visitors to disclose the serious intentions that motivated him to accept the [Lebanese-Israeli] agreement. He pointed out that it was not possible to do anything else. He said: However, the day will come when we will say why we accepted the agreement. He wondered what we can do when our Arab brothers are unable to fight or conclude peace. What can we do and how can the government move while each individual piece of Lebanon has no links with the other pieces?

Al-Wazzan said that we do not want the Arabs to approve the agreement but to show understanding of Lebanon's situation. At a party Shaykh Shams ad-Din [deputy leader of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council] told him that the Israelis in the south told the villages about security measures they will take. Al-Wazzan asked: What do you want me to say about the situation in Al-Biqa' and what about the north which is burning?

In a frank answer to his criticizers, Al-Wazzan said: What do they want from me? I have said that ruling is participation and not wrangle. Before me, [former Prime Minister] Karami differred with [former President] Franjiyah. What happened to the army? Before me [former Prime Minister] Al-Huss differed with [former President] Sarkis; what happened then?

When the Palestinians left Beirut, Al-Wazzan said, I asked President Sarkis to bid them farewell. Minister Rene Mu'awwad represented the president so that no one would say that a Lebanese party was against the Palestinian issue. This is participation, Al-Wazzan added.

Al-Wazzan further asked: What do they want me to ask President Amin al-Jumayyil? He has refused to go the Jerusalem, rejected political negotiations and adhered to his position that Sa'd Haddad should go with Israel if it stipulated that he stay. Al-Jumayyil affirmed to the Israelis that the issue is a Lebanese affair that we and no one else can decide.

Al-Wazzan Intrviewed by Budapest Television

LD102137 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Interview with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan by Alajos Chrudinak in Beirut; date not given — Al-Wazzan's answers recorded in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Text] [Chrudinak] The American-Israeli-Lebanese agreement signed 2 months ago may never be implemented. The agreement has collapsed and the Lebanese Government has found itself in a tight corner. The sentiments of disillusionment, helplessness, and of a lack of prospects are gaining strength in the circle of Lebanon's leaders. This could also be sensed in the words of Shafiq al-Wazzan, Lebanese prime minister, when he showed signs of strain when answering my questions during our conversation in Beirut.

President Amin al-Jumayyil is going to Washington on 22 July. He will be followed a few days later by Begin, the Israeli head of government. What do you expect from this visit?

[Al-Wazzan] The president has indeed been invited to the United States, but he has not yet indicated whether he has accepted the invitation. It is possible that he will go there, but it is also possible that he will not.

[Chrudinak] Syria has rejected the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and is not prepared to withdraw from Lebanon now. However, this also means that the compromise reached with Israel has now collapsed because it cannot be realized.

[Al-Wazzan] I will now answer your question with the following clear explanation which touches on the essence of the agreement. The agreement concluded between us and Israel contains no provisions to the effect that Syria must withdraw from Lebanon. We rejected this Israeli demand, and this is why this condition was not included in the agreement. However, at a later date, following the signing of the agreement, Israel unilaterally informed in writing the American leaders that it will not withdraw its army as long as Syrian and Palestinian troops remain in Lebanon. We, who had earlier turned down this demand of theirs, informed the United States that if Israel fails to withdraw from Lebanon we will then consider the agreement as invalid or as something that has been suspended. Yes, suspended or null and void. And in that event either the Arab countries help us to persuade Israel to withdraw or, if not, we will try to achieve this through other means.

[Chrudinak] How, for example?

[Al-Wazzan] Let me keep that secret to myself. Is that clear? My people will decide at a convenient time what they should do.

[Chrudinak] Yet people are justified in fearing — as, indeed, the opposition members of parliament claim — that Lebanon will come under Israeli influence to an ever-increasing extent as a consequence of the agreement.

[Al-Wazzan] Why? Or should we be more scared of this agreement, which we have concluded with Israel in order that it withdraw its troops from Lebanon, than of the present Israeli occupation? The fact that day after day the Israelis detain Lebanese people, that they lock them up in camps, that roads are closed and people are stopped and interrogated, does all this just mean nothing to you? Is the agreement the only cause for fear?

[Chrudinak] Why do the Americans fail to demand that Israel withdrawl from Lebanon? After all, you have staked everything on the United States which, for its part, has turned Lebanon into part of its sphere of interests.

[Al-Wazzan] If you believe that the United States is capable of doing more than it is already doing then you might as well know that we have already asked it for this. Or, if you think that the USSR can solve our problems, let me then turn now to the USSR, Hungary, and the Eastern countries to provide help.

[Chrudinak] But the Lebanese president has not yet applied to the USSR for help of this kind.

[Al-Wazzan] I am also a representative of the authorities in Lebanon, if you were not aware of this. You have asked me for an interview because I am the prime minister. If you feel that my words lack weight, then just throw this report away.

[Chrudinak] You have misunderstood me. I did not have this in mind, but rather the fact that you have a presidential system. If it is the president who...

[Al-Wazzan, interrupting] I am now turning with this appeal to all the countries of the world. I am turning to Russia, America, Great Britain, Hungary, Greece, and Cyprus. I am greeting with joy all those countries which are capable of helping us.

[Chrudinak] What kind of help do you have in mind?

[Al-Wazzan] All forms of aid.

[Chrudinak] Including military aid?

[Al-Wazzan] Both military and nonmilitary aid. If to back up diplomacy there were a reliable military plan to support us, we would gladly welcome it.

[Chrudinak] Would that be within the UN framework, that is, under the aegis of the United Nations?

[Al-Wazzan] It could be in (?any) form and from anyone. Look, I am sick. You understand, I am sick. I need medicine. I will take any kind of medicine it it helps me.

[Chrudinak] Prime Minister, I will convey this appeal of yours to the countries of the world.

[Al-Wazzan] I am speaking openly. I am not muttering and not keeping things secret.

[Chrudinak] Thus you would repudiate the Israeli-Lebanese agreement if you could find a more favorable alternative?

[Al-Wazzan] Yes, undoubtedly so. We have not yet ratified the agreement. We have not yet ratified it.

[Chrudinak] So you are deliberately delaying it?

[Al-Wazzan] We have not committed ourselves concerning the date because we keep in view our own interests. If we consider that the interests of our country demand that we ratify the agreement, we will then do so. However, we are not going to do that now, and we are not exchanging the documents of the agreement with Israel. Quite clearly, the agreement can be implemented only if the sides have exchanged the documents of ratification. This step has not yet been taken.

[Chrudinak] Is that because you are expecting a better settlement?

[Al-Wazzan] If there had been a single better alternative, we would not have signed this agreement. If there were a better settlement, we would accept it.

[Chrudinak] Thank you for the interview.

[Al-Wazzan] I also thank you and apologize for the sharp tone expressing irritation. But I am an injured man.

Habib Briefs Salim on Shultz Talks 8 July

NC081833 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim heard a report this afternoon from U.S. special envoy Philip Habib on the results of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' talks in Tel Aviv, Cairo, Amman, and Damascus concerning the situation in Lebanon. Minister Salim met with Ambassador Habib at 1700 today in the presence of Ambassadors Draper and Dillon, and Christopher Ross, Ambassador Draper's Assistant. During the 2-hour meeting, they discussed the ideas and points contained in the report. Salim, Habib, and the U.S. team will hold a second meeting tomorrow afternoon to continue the discussion.

Habib Leaves 9 July

NC091833 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] U.S. Presidential Envoy Philip Habib left Beirut for Washington at 1810 today to help prepare for President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to the United States before the end of this month.

President al-Jumayyil received Ambassador Habib and his assistant Morris Draper this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. They briefed President al-Jumayyil on the outcome of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' tour in the area and his talks in Damascus, Tel Aviv, Amman, and Cairo. It has been learned that the U.S. delegation reported to Lebanese officials on encouraging conclusions that Secretary Shultz was able to derive from the results of his Middle East tour.

Salim, Envoys Discuss Multinational Force

NC091948 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim held a meeting with the heads of the diplomatic missions of the states participating in the multinational force at 1700 today. These are the ambassadors of the United States, France, Italy, and Britain. The meeting lasted for 1 hour and dealt with the situation and task of this force and its future role in light of political developments, especially the outcome of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' recent tour in the area.

France To Increase Military Unit Strength

NC110710 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] A Lebanese Government source has stated that President Amin al-Jumayyil has been officially informed that France agrees to increase the number of French forces with the multinational force in Lebanon. The source added that French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson communicated to President al-Jumayyil France's agreement to send an additional 3,000 soldiers of the French combat units to act as a reserve [radif] for the Lebanese Army in the areas of Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh as soon as the Israeli forces withdraw from these areas. They will be assigned the additional task of opening fire when provoked. These forces will establish logistics bases in the area. This unit will be commanded by General (Colon) who will establish a headquarters in the Shanayh area.

Ratification of Withdrawal Agreement Considered

NC091310 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Excerpt] It was disclosed today that Lebanon is inclined toward ratifying the Lebanese-Israeli agreement soon now that understanding on this measure has been achieved with the U.S. secretary of state. Information indicates that the purpose of the ratification of the agreement is to block the way to Israel's casting doubt about the agreement on the one hand, and to emphasize Lebanon's independent decisionmaking power vis-a-vis the pressure that is being put on Lebanon by the Arabs on the other.

A well-informed source declared to our radio station today that one of the objectives of the assassination attempt that was made on Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's life is to put pressure on Al-Wazzan to induce him to refuse to ratify the agreement.

A diplomatic-juristic source [masdarun diblumsi qanuni] has explained that the ratification process requires publishing the law on the agreement in the *Official Gazette*. The law should also bear the signatures of the president of the republic and of the prime minister. Consequently, and in the second phase, the Lebanese and Israeli Governments would exchange the instruments of ratification.

Detainees Freed; Arrest in Al-Wazzan Incident

NC091544 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] The authorities today released 44 Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian, and Jordanian detainees after completing their investigations. The release was made at Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's request.

Meanwhile, a person accused of threatening to blow up the prime minister's house has been arrested. He is Hasan Talib Shuqayr from Mays al-Jabal. He is being questioned on whether he had any link with the booby-trapped car explosion in As-Sana'i'.

RFL: Culprits in U.S. Embassy Bombing Confess

NC100629 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Press reports say that a few days ago security authorities discovered who carried out the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in 'Ayn al-Muraysah, detained a number of the people, and interrogated them under a shroud of secrecy. These reports say that the perpetrators belong to an organization that is well-known for using violence as a means of asserting its existence and is well-known for links with foreign circles. The reports say that more than 10 people were detained. They have made clear confessions of their participation in the bombing, of those who planned for the operation, and of the parties who encouraged it.

Tension Between Syrians, Al-Khatib Group

NC091414 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, tension in the relations between the Syrian forces and the Ahmad al-Khatib [commander of the Arab Army of Lebanon] group could lead to negative results. This is reportedly due to the development of the inter-Palestinian clashes and to the links between Ahmad al-Khatib and the Fatah movement.

According to other information received by the Voice of Lebanon, the Khomeynite movement in the Al-Biqa' has supplied the Communist Party center in Niha with a quantity of arms and ammunition, including Soviet-made rocket launchers.

'Unidentified' Aircraft Overfly Tripoli 10 July

NC101308 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Security sources reported a short time ago that marked calm prevails in most Lebanese areas. The sources added that at 1400 today, unidentified warplanes flew at a low altitude over the city of Tripoli.

Israeli Planes Draw Tripoli Antiaircraft Fire

NC101544 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon 1530 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier over the Al-Biqa' twice this afternoon. Israeli warplanes also overflew Tripoli at a low altitude between 1400 to 1500, drawing antiaircraft fire.

RFL: Israeli Plane Attacks Syrian Radar 10 July

NC110611 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0556 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] While a bulldozer of the Syrian forces was fortifying radar positions in the Dahr al-Qabib area yesterday afternoon, Israeli warplanes flew at a low altitude over the place. It has been reported that an Israeli warplane attacked the place with an air-to-ground missile. The Syrian forces countered by opening antiaircraft fire.

Arms Supplied to Islamic Movement, Palestinians

NC111037 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, the two ships which anchored in Al-Minyah port at 0100 this morning are being unloaded. Three big trucks carrying arms and equipment have so far been handed over to the Islamic Unification Movement in the presence of Fatah officers. The remaining weapons are being transported to the Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps.

The Islamic Unification Movement today circulated leaflets in Tripoli attacking the Lebanese Army.

Armed Iranians Join Tripoli Islamic Movement

NC081258 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Our radio station has special information to the effect that the head of the Islamic Unification Movement in Tripoli, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, has recently received a set of Iranian revolutionary books that have been sent to him by the Iranian Revolutionary Council. Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban will adhere to these books in opposing the Lebanese authority and its security organs.

The same sources have added that some 200 Iranian armed men have left Al-Biqa' and have joined the armed men of Sha'ban in Tripoli.

Radio Free Lebanon had, in earlier broadcasts, unearthed the fact that Sha'ban had received $10 million from Libya to foment sectarian intrigue in the north and to act against Lebanese legitimacy.

Lebanese Army Replaces Israelis in Monte Verde

NC090700 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0627 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Excerpt] In the Ash-Shuf area, the Israeli forces have run mechanized patrols in this area. Furthermore, the Israeli forces have set up mobile checkpoints, have checked [words indistinct], and have searched vehicles.

The Israeli forces yesterday afternoon withdrew from the Monte Verde area [words indistinct]. They also removed (?some) of their fortifications. Lebanese Army men were stationed in the Monte Verde area last night.

Yesterday evening, the Israeli forces that had earlier left the Monte Verde area proceeded through the [words indistinct] to the Khaldah triangle.

Israeli Activities in Mountain, Ash-Shuf 9 July

NC090743 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] The Israelis have continued to rotate their forces in the mountain and Ash-Shuf. An estimated 25 huge vehicles were seen moving along the 'Alayh traffic circle and then through Al-Hazimiyah and gallery Sim'an and proceeding toward the south. This caused the coastal road to be blocked more than 10 times and caused traffic congestion.

The Israeli forces also combed the area of Sahra' az-Zaytun from Ash-Shuwayfat to Kafr Shima. They also established patrols to escort their convoys and set up three roadblocks on the Gallery Sim'an, Camille Sham'un Boulevard, and Al-Hadath crossroads.

The Israelis have also carried out maneuvers with live ammunition in the area between the Ad-Damur bridge and Ad-Dalhamiyah crossroads.

Amid the calm that has been prevailing on the Al-Biqa' front for the past 2 days, the Israelis have continued to thin out their forces on the contact lines. Yesterday, they returned to Israel the mobile operations rooms which they brought to the front 2 months ago.

An Israeli military source in Al-Biqa' has explained that the Israeli forces will not withdraw from the contact lines with the Syrian and Palestinian forces until an agreement is reached among the three parties on a simultaneous withdrawal from Lebanon.

According to today's reports, the Israeli forces have begun to repair and prepare the Marj 'Uyun airport which is located to the north of the Israeli settlement of Metulla. They also asked the farmers to reap their crops quickly lest they be destroyed.

Meanwhile, the Israeli forces have released five detainees from the town of Zighdraya, who were detained 3 days ago, after interrogating them at the Israeli military governor's headquarters.

The picture has not yet become clear regarding the rumors which the Israeli forces have spread in Sidon and the south about their intention to release about 500 detainees from Ansar camp on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr. Local sources have said that, by these rumors, Israel wanted to see how much the local functionaries will cooperate with it in the event a request is made to release the detainees. It has been learned that Israel has asked some functionaries in Sidon to form a liaison committee to coordinate with it on a number of matters. Israel brought up the question of the release of prisoners only to induce them. However, the Sidon functionaries responded by saying that the release of prisoners from the Ansar camp by the Israeli forces is the duty and the concern of the Israeli authorities. The Sidon functionaries also emphasized that they will have contacts only with the legitimate authorities.

Damascus Radio on Shultz Trip, Israeli Plans

JN091452 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has returned to the United States after visiting Asia, as was originally planned, and the Middle East, including Syria, according to a later plan in which U.S. President Reagan showed personal interest.

Yesterday, Shultz submitted a report to Reagan on his visits and talks. By studying what U.S. newspapers and media have said about Shultz' visit, one discovers that the U.S. side pinned special, if not exceptional, importance on the secretary's visit to Damascus and his talks with President Hafiz al-Asad. The U.S. side, it seems, puts special importance on the U.S.- Israeli agreement which is to be imposed on Lebanon. The U.S. side wants to prevent the collapse of this agreement in the months before the U.S. presidential elections to ensure that this agreement is a card President Reagan can use with the U.S. public because U.S. and international realities and the balance of power in the world has prevented him from fulfilling some of his election promises on internal social and economic conditions, the international situation, East-West relations, and the balance of power in the world.

Although Jimmy Carter's precedent in this field is not encouraging, since he failed in the elections even though he personally supervised the planning and implementation of the Camp David accords, and the departure of Anwar as-Sadat from the Arab side to the framework of U.S. subservience which entails capitulation before Israeli conditions and ambitions, all indications are that President Reagan wants to make the Lebanese agreement, which fulfills all Israeli demands and ambitions, his means of gaining the Zionist lobby in the United States and the votes of those who are influenced by this lobby's political, informational, and economic machine.

From this angle, one can understand the U.S. rush to implement the U.S.-Israeli agreement in Lebanon. One can also understand the U.S. Administration's serious view of Syria's position which was declared through its struggler leader President Hafiz al-Asad's rejection and resistance of the agreement until it falls, with all the harm it entails to Lebanon's independence and sovereignty and the security and interests of Syria and the Arab nation.

After his meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad, Shultz announced that there were no positive results concerning the agreement. We view the pronouncements of U.S. sources close to the Reagan administration that Shultz' failure to achieve the objectives of his visit to Damascus, namely, to persuade Syria to accept the agreement directly or indirectly, or to withdraw its forces from Lebanon, as a negative indication which will affect future prospects. As the U.S. presidential elections become closer, the United States gets closer to Israel.

Therefore, we expect the United States and Israel to take a joint and coordinated action for a new move in the region. The announcement that the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces will hold maneuvers in the region is an attempt to put pressure on the region or to entrust Israel to take certain actions.

These maneuvers and the Israeli threats and preparations for aggression against the land call for caution and vigilance because the information published after Israel's invasion of Lebanon has affirmed that the invasion, which was carried out with the approval of the United States, might push the politically defeated sides in Lebanon and the region to change the course of events by force. The enemies of Syria and the Arab nation who failed to achieve their goals through the invasion of Lebanon and through threats and temptation will not be able to achieve those goals even if they launch a war. Syria is prepared for discussions and dialogue, but it is not prepared to abandon its positions, rights, and interests and the interests of its Arab nation.

Syria is fully aware of the regional and international balances of power and of Israel's ties with the United States. Therefore, Syria will turn any new aggression into a setback for the aggressors and their supporters. Syria wants real, permanent, and just peace based on the principles of the UN Charter and on the right of nations to self-determination. It is also prepared to cooperate with the United Nations and with all other sides who are seeking peace. No one can force Syria to accept capitulation in the name of peace.

Palestine Broadcast on Israeli Redeployment

JN092100 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1755 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Palestine broadcast: unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers on the path of revolution and liberation: Political observers are unanimous that the mission of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was a failure. This called for an urgent meeting of the U.S. National Security Council to hear Shultz' report on his mission in the Middle East.

The Israeli-Lebanese agreement, which was reached under Shultz' supervision, has been frozen. The Israelis have exploited this situation to entrench their occupation of southern Lebanon under the pretext of redeploying their forces with U.S. approval.

But, will the U.S. onslaught stop here? Observers believe that Washington's next move will be heating up the situation by creating new factors through a large-scale Israeli aggression against the Syrian and Palestinian forces in Al-Biqa'. This is what is meant by U.S. sources' statements that Lebanon will pay for the impasse and that the United States and Israel are studying what can be done.

Meanwhile, a Zionist official in Paris asserted that the United States has pledged in writing that it will back up the Zionists in any step they take in Lebanon, including the partial withdrawal which is considered a partition of Lebanon.

Lebanese sources yesterday said that the Zionist enemy has begun carrying out its plan of redeploying its forces in southern Lebanon in accordance with the new calculations of the enemy's plans which are an attempt to effect a permanent Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon. What is required to confront the situation is the promotion of the nationalist and Palestinian resistance against the occupation and the affirmation of the basic facts of the Arab-Zionist conflict, foremost being the fact that what has been taken by force will be regained only by force.

Palestine Broadcast Discusses Partial Withdrawal

JN082014 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] There is no doubt that Israel will carry out a unilateral partial withdrawal from Lebanon. In their recent statements and positions, the Zionist enemy leaders did not conceal that objective. Moreover, the Zionist invasion forces have made certain arrangements in southern Lebanon, such as the opening of new roads in preparation for a permanent stay and for a partial withdrawal of the Zionist forces to the region, which stretches up to 45 km from the northern border of occupied Palestine. This means the partitioning of Lebanon and the Zionist occupation of large parts of the Lebanese territory. Israel will take that step in coordination with the United States.

This was made clear during U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' talks with the Zionist officials on protecting Israel's security and the safety of the Israeli invasion forces in Lebanon. Moreover, the U.S. Administration has shown understanding of the Tel Aviv rulers' declared position. President Reagan himself has repeatedly affirmed that U.S. policy in the Middle East is based on supporting and protecting Israel as well as guaranteeing its security and its superiority over the Arabs.

The U.S. attitude has encouraged Israel to continue its flagrant aggression against the Arab states and to expand its presence in the occupied Arab territories by setting up more settlements and the occupation of more Arab territories. The U.S. diplomatic move, represented by George Shultz' previous tour which ended with the conclusion of the Lebanese- Israeli agreement, and his current tour is an attempt to impose the realities of the Zionist aggression on Lebanon and the Arabs with the aim of guaranteeing and strengthening the Zionist occupation of the Arab territories.

The contract of submission, known as Shultz' contract, allows Israel to remain in Lebanon, offers it protection and security, and provides it with large economic and military facilities in Lebanon's territories. This will naturally affect Lebanon's security, safety, and unity, and the security of Syria and the Arab nation.

The agreement of submission, which George Shultz has sponsored and drafted, is more unjust and dangerous than the Camp David accords. Syria announced this after the signing of that agreement. President al-Asad has also reiterated that Syria's rejection of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is final and that the said agreement intended to be imposed on Lebanon conflicts with Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty, and undermines Lebanon's belonging to the Arabs. With all its available means and capabilities, Syria will continue to resist that agreement with the aim of foiling it. That conspiratorial agreement, which is a danger to Syrian and Lebanese security, will not remain alive because it was born dead.

Lebanon's Karami Rejects Partition Calls

JN091658 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli — Rashid Karami, former Lebanese prime minister, has asserted that those who wagered on the United States, Israel, and on the ratification of the agreement of submission have reached a dead end. Karami condemned the Phalangist militias' practices and calls of partition and demanded that the Lebanese Government be for all and that it should not be monopolized by a sect or faction. He said that the rule in Lebanon should be based on justice and equality, asserting the determination of the Lebanese nationalist forces to continue confrontation of the Israeli occupation until victory.

Saudi Minister of Education Pays Visit

Arrives With Message

JN100920 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Saudi Minister of Education Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir arrived in Damascus this morning. He brings an oral message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to his brother President Hafiz al-Asad.

Received by Al-Asad

JN101452 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1435 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, 10 Jul (SANA) — At 1400 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Saudi education minister and personal envoy of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Dr al-Khuwaytir conveyed a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, dealing with the situation in the region and the Palestinian arena.

The president asked the envoy to carry a reply message to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Foreign Minister Khaddam Receives Cuban Minister

JN091211 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received in his office this morning Farah, Cuban minister of state and Communist Party Central Committee Member. The meeting was attended by Dr Muhsin Bilal, head of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee of the People's Assembly; the director of the Foreign Ministry's U.S. Affairs Department; and the Cuban ambassador in Damascus. The talks dealt with the current political situation in the region.

Romanian Official Makes Statement, Departs

JN081247 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Gheorghe Oprea, Romanian deputy prime minister, left Damascus this morning after a 5-day visit to Syria. In a statement to the SANA correspondent, Oprea expressed pride in his meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad. He said: I highly appreciated the meeting during which I conveyed to the president a message from President Nicolae Ceausescu. He expressed his great satisfaction with the results of the talks he held on economic cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Concluding his statement, Oprea conveyed the Romanian people's greetings to the Arab Syria people.

Officials Inspect Work at Jordanian Border

JN091652 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Dar'a — Dar'a Governor Muhammad Mustafa Miro, the province police chief, and senior officers and officials today inspected the work at the Immigration, Passport, and Customs Center at the border which receives passengers from Jordan, various Arab countries, and foreign countries and those who leave the country.

During this tour to the departments of the center, the governor and his entourage were briefed on the implementation of the instructions issued by the Ministry of Interior to the competent quarters in the center to facilitate all prcedures related to the passangers during the arrival and departure processes, especially during this period which precedes 'Id al-Fitr and the tourism season.

A great number of arrivals in the country, especially the Jordanians, have asserted the falsehood of the Jordanian regime's rumors on complications at the Syrian border center and other false allegations by the Jordanian authorities which aim at throwing a screen around the popular uprising which is taking place inside the fraternal country.

IDF May Redeploy in Lebanon 'Within a Few Days'

TA100533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] A decision is being formulated in Jerusalem that the IDF will shortly, perhaps even within a few days, have to begin redeploying along the Al-'Awwali River. At the same time, there are plans to strengthen Major Sa'd Haddad's force in southern Lebanon and to rely on further local forces in order to reduce the IDF's presence in those areas.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that all these changes are expected in view of the realization emerging in Jerusalem that Syria's refusal to pull its troops out of Lebanon will force Israel to stay an extended period of time in that country. The prime minister will convene a meeting this week to continue consultations over the IDF's deployment in Lebanon.

Evacuates East Beirut Areas

TA091951 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Today the IDF evacuated two areas on the hills east of Beirut: Monte Verde and ('Ayn Sa'di). A Lebanese unit took over positions in these quarters. An Israeli source said that this was a matter of altering the deployment and was of limited importance.

An official source in Beirut said that the Lebanese Army was ready to take over any position evacuated by the IDF.

Arens Reportedly Says Redeployment Coordinated

TA102010 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] The defense minister has said that Israel already has a plan coordinated with Lebanon for a redeployment of the IDF forces. Minister Arens disclosed this at a meeting with the European Parliament delegation in Jerusalem and his remarks were learned by our correspondent Jack Katzenell.

The defense minister stressed that the Lebanese Army and the Multinational Force would have to take responsibility for the areas to be evacuated by the IDF. He pointed out that the Lebanese Government has succeeded in imposing order in Beirut, which is densely populated and therefore the claim that it was unable to control an additional area was strange.

Arens Denies Redeployment Plan

TA110618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0605 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has denied stating that Israel already has a plan coordinated with Lebanon for a redeployment of the IDF. The denial was made to us this morning by Arens' media affairs adviser, Nahman Shay.

Defense Minister Discusses West Bank, Lebanon

TA081959 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Yoram Ronen — in studio, on 8 July]

[Text] [Ronen — picked up in midsentence]...of the mayor of Hebron seems to be shooting from the hip. It is as though you were looking for a scapegoat and found the mayor.

[Arens] No, it was not shooting from the hip at all. I must tell you that I thought about it seriously and I decided to approve the recommendation by the commanding officer and the chief of staff after many hesitations, because I understand that this is a far-reaching move. However, on the other hand, here we are trying to defend human life. Over the last few weeks, as you know, there have been several instances in Hebron of hostile acts, aggressive acts whose aim was to kill people. Yesterday Aharon Gross was indeed killed and I have no doubt that the assessment that Mayor an-Natshah, that he and the members of his council, that they had a hand in creating that atmosphere that contributed to these tragic events, those of these days and yesterday's tragic event. I have no doubt that this was a correct assessment and so I felt there was no alternative but to approve that recommendation because we are trying to prevent such activity, such actions in Hebron in the future.

[Ronen] You say that acting Mayor an-Natshah had a hand in creating the atmosphere that led to yesterday's tragic event. Do you not think that the people from Qiryat Arba' had a hand at least in creating the atmosphere of hostility?

[Arens] I feel I must say: Perhaps there is a natural tendency to regard the events in Hebron as a two-sided situation, between Jews and Arabs; they fight each other. But there is no symmetry. As you know, stones were thrown by Arabs at Jewish vehicles, not by Jews at Arab vehicles. Ester Ohana was killed by such stones. No Arab was killed traveling in an Arab vehicle. The attempts to attack, the throwing, the improvised bombing of the courtyard of Bet Romano were acts by Arabs against Jews. The handgrenade that was thrown at the Israeli jeep in a Hebron street was by an Arab against a Jew. The murder of Aharon Gross, a murder of a Jew by an Arab.

[Ronen] Nevertheless, Prof Arens, it seems to me that, at least over the last few weeks, the inhabitants of Qiryat Arba' also had a hand in fanning the tension. I would like to ask you, in the event of your coming to the conclusion that the people from Qiryat Arba' are responsible for the tension and the hostility, will you take steps regarding the Qiryat Arba' council, as you took regarding the Hebron council?

[Arens] I would never justify these acts, and not this time, either. Let us say that, in my opinion, the law must not be taken into one's own hands and it makes no difference if this is done by Jews or Arabs. I am prepared to take all the actions I have the authority to take.

[Ronen] With regard to the people from Qiryat Arba', too?

[Arens] With regard to everyone, in order to stop these acts. However, I will remind you again, there have not been acts here that have led to the murder of Arabs by Jews. There have been acts here by Arabs whose aim was to murder Jews and in the end a Jew was murdered by an Arab and I must remind you that, to our great regret, the town of Hebron, the Arab population of Hebron has a history which is not at all a beautiful one, but one of problems, of murders of Jews in that town.

[Ronen] Prof Arens, last night the Hebron settlers [Jewish settlers] received you with cries of "murderer." Do you think that there is any room at all for a dialogue between you and them in such an atmosphere of cries of 'Arens, murderer?

[Arens] I must tell you that I am not in favor, I am not enthusiastic about panic, hysteria, I have often told the settlers in Judaea and Samaria that I regard them as pioneers who go before the camp and when I discover — among them, not among them all, heaven forbid — but, here and there, panic, hysteria, after this or that event, I can only regret it.

[Ronen] Prof Arens, the settlers, and Prof Yuval Ne'eman, Minister Ne'eman, too, yesterday proposed that the government increase the authority for the settlers' self-defense, that it establish a settlers militia that would be given more authority for their self-defense. Do you justify, do you support such a proposal?

[Arens] You know, there are militia groups in Lebanon and we are not always happy about this. There is no room for militia groups in Israel or in territory under Israeli rule. We have a militia which is very splendid and that is the IDF and that is sufficient.

[Ronen] That is, you are opposed to the proposal that the settlers be given more arms, more authority?

[Arens] I am opposed to militia groups or military forces in addition to the IDF.

[Ronen] The commander of the Central Command, Ori Or, said last night that, in his opinion, as long as Jews and Arabs live together in Hebron, there will be no avoiding such violent clashes. Do you not think that we have penetrated too deeply into the heart of the Arab colony in Hebron and then, perhaps, the area of clashes will also be greater?

[Arens] This penetration began more than 1,000 years ago. There has been a Jewish community and a Jewish quarter in Hebron for more than 1,000 years. In 1929 they murdered the Jews in Hebron and put an end to the Jewish quarter in Hebron. I think that not one of us, not one of us who is a Zionist, is prepared to accept this as a final judgment. We were not prepared to accept this as a final judgment for the Jewish quarter in Jerusalem. When it was destroyed, people were killed and expelled and I would be very surprised if there were Jews who were prepared to accept it as a final judgment that they killed the Jews, they destroyed the Jewish quarter, and it is not to be reestablished. In my opinion, the Jewish quarter in Hebron must be rehabilitated.

[Ronen] Do you think that the Jewish settlement in the heart of Hebron should be expanded?

[Arens] I think that the Jewish quarter in Hebron must be rehabilitated in the end; with more Jewish inhabitants than there are in Hebron today, of course.

[Ronen] To conclude, Prof Arens, a question about Lebanon. A long time ago you said that the IDF redeployment in Lebanon was a matter of a few weeks. In the meantime, those few weeks have gone by and I am asking: Has there been a postponement, a suspension in the redeployment? Is it a matter of another few weeks, months, more than that?

[Arens] No, I would not say that we should call what has happened a delay, a suspension. All the time we are speaking about this and it seems to me that I have explained this more than once, that we are interested in a redeployment, in coordination with the Lebanese Army. We do not want to leave a vacuum behind us which would be filled by the PLO and the Syrian Army. It seems to me that not one of us wants this. Therefore, there is a question here of more than one party. Therefore, I also opposed giving approval to a unilateral withdrawal. We should coordinate our movements with the Lebanese and, to a certain extent, with the Americans. We are doing this. I have no doubt, either, that we shall arrive at this required coordination so that we can carry out what we have to carry out in the relatively near future.

[Ronen] When do you think that this relatively near future will be? Is it a matter of weeks, days, months?

[Arens] I would not say that it is a matter of months.

[Ronen] That is, just a few weeks?

[Arens] I think I have said enough, right?

[Ronen] Thank you very much, have a good sabbath.

Further Remarks on Lebanon

TA091306 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Report by David Essing on remarks by Defense Minister Moshe Arens; date and place of Arens remarks not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Essing] Turning to the situation in Lebanon, Moshe Arens was not totally pessimistic about the Syrians' pulling out of the country, despite their intransigent stand.

[Arens] I do not believe that there is a high probability of them agreeing to withdraw from Lebanese soil in the immediate future, but I think if there is a concerted, continuous coordinated effort on behalf of the Lebanese Government, the U.S. Government, and Israel — hopefully, maybe, joined by Western European governments — of applying pressure on Syria to end this occupation of Lebanon, I think that the attainment of that objective, of an end to Syrian occupation of Lebanon, is not totally without hope.

[Essing] There were fewer Israeli casualties last month. This was a combination of the current disarray in the PLO and of steps taken by the Israeli Army.

[Arens] Our position is that we will not reconcile ourselves to that kind of situation. The PLO will be attacked even if they try to hide behind the skirts of the Syrian deployment in Lebanon. The day before yesterday was a case in point where, after a PLO attack against an Israeli outpost, fire was returned not only against the immediate attackers but also directed against a PLO base that was located not very far from Syrian positions in the Syrian-occupied part of Lebanon.

[Essing] In any case, Israel was moving ahead with plans for a military redeployment.

[Arens] And we are now in a period of carrying on this type of coordination so that we will be in a position to carry out the redeployment that we have planned and which is going to be carried out in the not too distant future.

[Essing] The defense minister hopes the redeployment would begin this way:

[Arens] We are looking at a situation where the IDF will withdraw not from the entire area under Israeli control, but initially from only parts and relatively small areas, and I think that in coordination with the Lebanese Army, we can work out a schedule of withdrawal so that their capability will not be overly taxed.

Also, in parallel, we are making a significant effort amongst the Durze and Christian residents of the areas from which we would withdraw, areas of 'Alayh and Bhamdun, eventually the entire Ash-Shuf area, in order to bring about an arrangement that will provide a measure of optimism and for the continuation of tranquillity and peace between the Druze and Christians in the area even after the IDF has withdrawn and the Lebanese Army has taken over responsibility.

[Essing] But what if the Syrians tried to move into areas evacuated by Israeli forces, areas such as the key Beirut-Damascus highway?

[Arens] I think it is clear that neither Lebanon, the Lebanese Government, nor the U.S. Government, nor the Israeli Government, will take kindly to the Syrians' occupying areas that the IDF would evacuate, and certainly would not take kindly to the Syrian Army taking over that segment of the Beirut-Damascus road that is presently in the hands of the IDF, in other words, bring the Syrian Army to the gates of Beirut. My guess is that probably none of the free world and none of the Western countries will consider that to be an acceptable situation and I expect that that wish on behalf of all of the governments concerned — and certainly we would be greatly concerned — will be communicated unequivocally to the Syrians, and I think there is reason to expect that the Syrians would accept that signal and would not make an attempt to move ahead on the Beirut-Damascus highway when the IDF leaves.

Discusses Hebron Incident

TA090930 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal on 8 July; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Tal] Professor Arens, how did the Hebron incident take place? How do you account for this?

[Arens] Look, to our regret, the town of Hebron — its Arab residents — have a long and regrettable history in their attitude toward the Jews who live among them. It was not only the murder yesterday but, in fact, in recent weeks there have been a number of assassination attempts. I can only state that there is a degree of fanaticism, brutality and hatred of Jews, and there was no choice but to determine that Acting Hebron Mayor Mustafa 'abd an-Nabi an-Natshah and the Municipal Council members shared in creating this atmosphere. Only in this framework can one understand what happened yesterday.

[Tal] Professor Arens, what is your reaction to the incidents in the Hebron market which followed the murder, the arson and the smashing of windows; you yourself did not receive an especially hearty welcome.

[Arens] I was not hurt, at least. I heard there were disturbances in the evening yesterday but I do not know the details yet. To the extent that they occurred I view these acts as grave. It makes no difference to me whether these acts were perpetrated by Jews or Arabs. We will do everything we can about this. I also gave instructions to the IDF before leaving the site yesterday to make every effort to prevent such acts. If these acts indeed took place, I can only regret this.

[Tal] Professor Arens, Qiryat Arba' and other people raised demands that a militia be set up to carry out actions which the security forces cannot, according to them. What is your comment on this?

[Arens] There are no militias in Israel. There is an army — the IDF — in Israel. This is a glorious, good army and is even believed to be one of the best armies in the world. We do not want, nor need, any additional militias.

[Tal] You are surely aware of the fact that many people in Judaea and Samaria possess arms.

[Arens] Many Israelis, especially in the border areas, in Judaea and Samaria, on kibbutzim and moshavim, possess arms and justifiably so. The hard environmental conditions in which we live call for this, but there is a great difference between arms possessed by people for self-defense and between the organizing of militias. There will be no militias in Israel.

[Tal] Are any measures adopted to prevent the possibility of undesirable use of these arms?

[Arens] We will do what is necessary to prevent this.

[Tal] Professor Arens, a few questions on the Lebanese issue: The Americans believe that the IDF must not effect a unilateral withdrawal or a redeployment, if you like. Why should the Americans indeed shoulder the responsibility of filling the vacuum which the IDF will leave behind?

[Arens] This is not an Israeli problem. We can find the solutions to the security problems in the narrow sense of the word, as far as we are concerned, without sitting near the Beirut suburbs; however, we are interested in the stability of the Lebanese regime. We do not want the PLO forces or the Syrian Army to enter the regions which we will evacuate and this is exactly the U.S. interest as well. They too are interested in having Amin al-Jumayyil's regime continuing to be a stable and independent one. They know that if the PLO forces enter the regions we will evacuate, this will mean the toppling of Al-Jumayyil's regime. Therefore, since this is their interest, it can be assumed they will also be prepared to contribute to realizing this mutual interest.

[Tal] Will moving away from the Beirut-Damascus road — as this appears in some of the plans — not mean exposing this area to the entry of the Syrians who are unprepared to leave Lebanon, to the point of their reaching the Beirut suburbs, followed by the terrorists?

[Arens] I would say that this is exactly what will happen if we withdraw unilaterally as some people demand. I think this is exactly what will not happen if our changes of deployment are coordinated and Lebanese forces as well as the Multinational Force will replace us at the same time as we evacuate certain places. If this happens I do not expect the Syrian Army to advance westward, on the Beirut-Damascus road.

[Tal] At this stage, does Israel have an interest in evacuating the Al-Biqa' region and getting off the Al-Baruk mountain?

[Arens] My reply to this is that one of the incentives for the Syrians to evacuate their positions in Lebanon is the fact that the IDF today is present at certain areas in Lebanon, near the Syrian border, not too far from the Syrian capital, Damascus. Syrian President Al-Asad has often mentioned that this presence is undesirable and inconvenient for him, and therefore it is clear that the presence in this region is a lever, perhaps a primary one, to cause the Syrians to pull out of Lebanon.

Shamir on Lebanese Agreement, Syria, PLO

TA101840 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the members of the European Parliament's Political Committee that Syria is adament on its refusal to pull its forces out of Lebanon and constant international pressure should be applied to it. Minister Shamir said that Israel will deploy its forces in Lebanon in preparation for a complete withdrawal since Israel has no intention of controlling any part of Lebanon. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami brings the foreign minister's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] In signing the agreement with Lebanon in May, Israel proved it has no intention of controlling any part of Lebanon. Israel wants to leave Lebanon while taking care to prevent aggression against it from Lebanese territory. The principle which will lead to this, according to Shamir, is the withdrawal of all foreign forces. The only obstacle to the implementation of the agreement is Syria. Constant international pressure on Syria to pull its forces out is called for now on behalf of Lebanon's independence. In view of Syria's refusal, Israel must take action for the implementation of the agreement, even unilateral implementation.

[Shamir — in English] If we decide to redeploy our military forces in Lebanon, it will be a partial withdrawal of our forces as a first stage in the complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

[Ben-'Ami — translates and continues] Shamir added that we will complete the withdrawal together with the withdrawal of all foreign forces. Although many in Lebanon fear Israel's withdrawal of all foreign forces, we believe, Shamir said that this will be an opportunity for the Lebanese Government to exercise its authority over its country.

[Shamir — in English] We will enable the Lebanese Government to exercise its authority on a greater part of their country.

[Ben-'Ami] The Syrians, Shamir said, do not have the intention of ruling only part of Lebanon. They do not talk about partitioning.

[Shamir — in English] What they want is full control of all of Lebanon, not only part of it.

[Ben-'Ami — translates and continues] Minister Shamir was asked why he says that the split within the PLO is good for Israel. His answer: The PLO is the most dangerous enemy of Israel.

[Shamir — in English] For us any split in the PLO, the meaning of it is the weakening of this organization, the weakening of this movement, and any weakening of this movement of the PLO is good for us.

[Ben-'Ami — translates and continues] Sooner or later the PLO will completely disappear, according to Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. [end recording]

Further Redeployment Remarks

TA110832 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 11 Jul 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Excerpts] In an effort to ease Lebanese concern, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir declared yesterday that the planned partial withdrawal by the Israel Defence Forces in Lebanon would be "a first stage in the complete withdrawal." Lebanese fears that Israel was seeking a partition of the country were "groundless," the foreign minister said.

Shamir was briefing the visiting Middle East Committee of the Council of Europe.

Lebanese leaders have contended that an IDF "redeployment" would contradict the Israel-Lebanon withdrawal-and-security agreement, but Shamir maintained that the redeployment would be made within the context of that agreement.

But Shamir's remarks yesterday made it clear that the government is not about to adopt the Labour advice, despite the presently bleak prospect of achieving a mutual, simultaneous withdrawal with the Syrians.

Government officials maintained that Shamir's formulation was important nevertheless, because it emphasized to the Lebanese and to the U.S. that Israel did not regard the "redeployment" as a deviation from the Israel-Lebanon accord or from the ultimate goal of withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

Some high officials see the minor IDF redeployments in Beirut at the weekend as small but significant test-cases in terms of the Lebanese Army's ability to coordinate with the IDF and take over areas which the IDF vacates. The IDF's movements were decided upon, it is reliably understood, at the highest policyymaking levels.

According to Israel Radio, Defence Minister Moshe Arens told the European Council's committee that the Lebanese Army was maintaining order quite well in densely populated Beirut, and could cope with more territory. He admitted concern, however, over what would happen when the IDF left the Ash-Shuf area, as the conflict between the Christians and the Druze was "brutal and fanatical."

Arens told the council representatives that Israel had been forced to work out its redeployment scheme in the face of mounting IDF casualties.

Schiffer Reports on Cabinet Session 10 July

TA101133 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1110 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer outside the prime minister's office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] The Cabinet did not adopt any decisions. The Cabinet will not change its security policy because of one incident.

Today the ministers heard a briefing from Defense Minister Moshe Arens about the events preceding the murder in Hebron and about the subsequent measures. However, upon emerging from the meeting, several ministers told me: No new decisions were made, there is no need for new decisions regarding the measures taken to ensure the well-being of settlers in Judaea and Samaria.

The ministers were also briefed by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir about the political contacts held in Jerusalem last week with the French, Dutch and U.S. foreign ministers. At the end of the meeting, Interior Minister Yosef Burg's remarked about the points raised on the issue of Hebron:

[Begin recording] [Burg] First of all, I think that the people in charge of security are responsible for this issue. As for a civil guard — as there is in Tel Aviv — it could be established elsewhere, and if a decision is made about this it will be published.

[Schiffer] Are you in favor of establishing a civil guard in Qiryat Arba'?

[Burg] I have just said: If a decision is made. I have still got time to voice my opinion. I am against ministers voicing their position before a consultation has been held.

[Schiffer] Referring to the incident in Hebron: Do you not think that continuing settlement in Hebron will lead to a recurrence of such incidents due to the friction between the two peoples?

[Burg] I think this question leaves an unpleasant aftertaste because it somehow justifies those who exploit settlement. Being the son-in-law of the late Rabbi Slonim from Hebron, I am not prepared to accept your formulation of this question.

[Schiffer] How do you see things, then?

[Burg] The way I see it is that no Jews whatsoever should be banned from settling anywhere in Eretz Yisra'el. [end recording]

As said, the Cabinet did not make any decisions today about a new policy. However, a meeting will be held this afternoon at the defense minister's office. Minister Arens is gathering several ministers to hold another debate about the findings and recommendations of Mrs Yehudit Karp, and the issues in the background of recent events in Hebron may be raised.

More on Cabinet Meeting

TA101628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] As expected the Cabinet today discussed the incidents in Hebron. At the end of the meeting Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor issued the following statement:

[Begin Meridor recording] The Cabinet heard a review from the defense minister about the murder in Hebron and the developments following it. After the review the Cabinet held a thorough discussion which was concluded by the prime minister, with the approval of all the ministers, as follows:

The Cabinet upholds the decision by the commander of the Central Command following the abhorrent murder of Yeshiva student Aharon Gross. The security forces will defend the lives of Jews throughout Eretz Yisra'el and will not allow anyone to act as he pleases.

The foreign minister surveyed the visit to Israel by the Dutch foreign minister, the French external relations minister and the U.S. secretary of state. [end recording]

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer is in the studio and he will report further on the Cabinet meeting:

[Schiffer — live] Defense Minister Arens gave the ministers a short briefing. He said during the Cabinet meeting that the decision to depose the Hebron mayor stemmed from a situation that has culminated with the murder of the Yeshiva student. The draft resolution to depose An-Natshah has been on the agenda of Minister Arens' for a long time. It was thoroughly and meticulously checked and the murder only constituted a catalyst for this decision.

Some ministers asked why the deposition of An-Natshah was delayed until the murder. This was raised by Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, among others. The remarks of Minister Mordekhay Tzipori in the meeting indicated that the deposition is not a solution for anything. He warned the Cabinet that the incidence of terrorist and related occurrences in Judaea and Samaria has declined recently compared to the period when he began his work in the Defense Ministry. He discussed his visit to Hebron, saying he confronted panic and hysteria which should not have existed. Minister Arens also talked against the proposals to set up a special settler force for self-defense and said that no one should lose his head. Incidentally, on this matter Minister Yuval Ne'eman submitted a document to the Cabinet but at the end of the meeting he agreed to remove this document from the Cabinet's agenda and to accept the prime minister's draft resolution. The ministers discussed the mini-pogrom perpetrated by the settlers in Hebron's market and criticized this phenomenon.

Minister Ari'el Sharon said it is very dangerous to use terms such as settlers' militia and settlers' mini-pogrom since they have distinct connotations. He also scored the expressions against Minister Arens in Hebron. Ari'el Sharon suggested that the wholesalers' market and central bus station in Hebron be turned over to the Jewish settlers since most of this property belonged to Jews in the past. He also suggested that a large road be paved through the market and up to the Makhpelah Cave.

Minister Hammer said that the defense establishment and the government should give an appropriate answer for the security of the settlers where they live and on the roads where they travel. He said that there is today some ambiguity about possible methods of reaction by the settlers. There must not be lawlessness vis-a-vis the Arabs, of course, but it is also impossible for the settlers to live in an atmosphere of constant fear because the government demonstrates weakness on the issue of their defense.

The Cabinet will shortly hold a comprehensive discussion about the policy in the territories and this is what the prime minister said in concluding the debate on the incidents in Hebron. Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i demanded that this comprehensive discussion be held since, as he put it, there were different commanders in the territories, each of them introducing a different policy. Moda'i also said that something is happening among the PLO ranks — its control over the Arab street is decreasing — and it is about time we take the initiative and promote the negotiations on the establishment of autonomy. Finally, remarks by some ministers including Moshe Arens, David Levi, Yuval Ne'eman, Eli'ezer Shostak, Yosef Burg and Ari'el Sharon, indicate that there is wide support in the Cabinet to immediately approach the restoration of the Jewish Quarter in Hebron and this will perhaps be the answer of the government to what took place in Hebron at the end of last week.

Further Report

TA101832 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Report by political correspondent Moshe Hakohen — recorded]

[Text] The announcement which the Cabinet released after its weekly meeting does not contain a denunciation of the murder of Yeshiva student Aharon Gross, nor does it contain a reference to the acts of arson and sabotage in the Hebron market in retaliation for the murder.

A government source explained that the condemnation of the murder would have made it necessary to condemn the incidents which followed it as well, and since the government could not, nor did it want to,put the two matters on the same level of gravity, it preferred to refrain from reaction. At the same time, during the Cabinet meeting itself one could hear, alongside angry comments regarding the murder, also condemnation for the incidents of arson in the market and the reception Minister Arens was given upon arriving in Hebron.

The defense minister's review of the Hebron incidents, which came at the beginning of the Cabinet meeting, was defined by the ministers as well-considered and moderate. Minister Arens made it clear that the debriefing about the incidents has not yet been completed. At the same time he firmly denied the report that the IDF soldiers who were present at the murder site refrained from extending aid to Aharon Gross who was mortally wounded because they believed he was an Arab.

The defense minister also rejected the claims that it is necessary to change the security policy in Judaea and Samaria in the wake of the murder. He said that the IDF and the security forces can handle the situation according to the present policy. According to Arens, since he assumed office in March there has been a decline in terrorist acts against settlers in Judaea and Samaria while the number of terrorist acts was on the rise prior to March. I am not satisfied with the present situation, of course, the defense minister said, and we will do all we can to improve it.

Former Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said in the meeting that the Cabinet should make it clear that Jewish blood cannot be spilled freely. Every Arab in Israel and in the neighboring countries should know this. Minister Sharon said the Cabinet cannot adopt an objective attitude toward Jewish-Arab relations in Judaea and Samaria although it must maintain law and order toward everyone. He called for adding hundreds of families to the Jewish settlement in Hebron as the only way to guarantee the security of Jews there.

During the meeting Minister Moda'i leveled criticism at the fact that Israel does not have a consistent and comprehensive policy in Judaea and Samaria. He attacked the arguments raised in justification of the dismissal of the Hebron mayor, such as faulty handling of municipal affairs, and asked whether these arguments were not known a month or two ago. It is impossible for the government to exercise a policy that is based on reactions.

His proposal that a comprehensive discussion about the Judaea and Samaria policy be held was accepted in principle by the prime minister and the defense minister but no date for this has been set.

IDF Hebron Decision Endorsed

TA101215 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] The Cabinet has endorsed the decision of the commander of the Central Command after the murder in Hebron, and the prime minister said that the security forces would protect Jews throughout Eretz Yisra'el and would not allow anybody to act independently. Thus, Mr Begin summed up the Cabinet debate about the events in Hebron.

Our political correspondent points out that the Cabinet did not pass a decision to introduce changes in the defense establishment's policy in the territories. After the Cabinet session, several ministers said it was not necessary to change the policy, but rather control should be stepped up and current regulations should be complied with.

Repercussions Continue After Hebron Incident

Begin Approves Mayor's Dismissal

TA101034 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 10 Jul 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by Yehuda Litani and Tzvi Bar'el]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin was party to the decision over the weekend to dismiss Hebron Mayor Mustafa 'Abd an-Nabi an-Natshah, and to disperse the Municipality of Hebron. On Thursday evening, Defense Minister Moshe Arens went from Hebron to the opening of the IDF exhibition in Tel Aviv, which was held for a few moments while he conferred with the prime minister, who was there as well, about the decision to disperse the Hebron municipality and depose An-Natshah. The prime minister gave his full support to this decision.

Civilian Administration Head Comments

TA081338 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1150 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] The head of the Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria, Shlomo Ilia, held a news conference a short while ago in which he explained the incidents in Hebron. Our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria Arye Gus has just returned from this news conference.

[Gus — live] An Israeli has been appointed acting mayor of Hebron in place of Mustafa 'abd an-Nabi an-Natshah. He is Shemesh Zamir, a staff officer for land affairs in the Hebron Hills area for the past 16 years. He was instructed by the head of the Civilian Administration to operate the municipal services while relying as little as possible on Israelis. There are signs, Ilia says, that the Arab officials, including the Arab heads of departments, will aid him. He will have only two Israelis at his side.

[Begin Ilia recording] It is in the interest of the Civilian Administration to transfer the running of the municipalities to local people. In the past we had people who expressed readiness to run the municipality. I do not think it would be wise to name names but we are surely examining the possibility that within a reasonable period of time, even a short one, we will appoint a local ad-hoc committee to handle the municipal affairs. [end recording]

[Gus — live] Ilia rejects the claim that An-Natshah was in fact dismissed due to the settlers' pressures and that the reasons given for his dismissal are mere excuses. He reviewed An-Natshah's unlawful activity: The smuggling of PLO funds into the municipality, making decisions to strike and supporting strikes in other municipalities, unwillingness to provide services to the Jewish residents, and boycotting the Civilian Administration.

An-Natshah handled the municipality affairs on several planes, according to Shlomo Ilia.

[Begin Ilia recording] We faced the choice of either summoning An-Natshah and deposing him for not cooperating with the Civilian Administration as he would not respond to the summons, or enabling An-Natshah to get off the limb he went out on, when he received notes from east of the Jordan River, from his friend Fahd al-Qawasimi, notes which included various instructions for policy or moves under certain circumstances. Recently we wanted to believe that An-Natshah was beginning to return [to order], but to our regret we have not seen any signs of this. [end recording]

[Gus — live] Shlomo Ilia hopes that the dismissal and the new situation that has been created will buy time in order to calm tempers in town and to lead to a renewed dialogue among all elements. He is not in a position where he can level criticism at political bodies, but he has totally rejected the proposal to set up a settlers militia and believes that the IDF is good enough to maintain order and security.

Mayor's Reaction to Dismissal

TA081236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT Jul 83

[Interview with dismissed Hebron Mayor Mustafa 'Abd an-Nabi an-Natshah by Arye Gus on 8 July; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [An-Natshah] At last, the settlers have succeeded in pushing the authority to their goal and they dissolved the elected Municipal Council and dismissed me from the municipality. We are sorry to say this, that the authority goes so far to the settlers' preference and I wish to say that the settlers have done so many acts in the city, much more than what [words indistinct] and the Municipal Council is not responsible in any case about security.

[Gus] Do you think this is the beginning of a new period, a new era, in Hebron now?

[An-Natshah] I am afraid in the future that the settlers will do what they want in the city but I think the people will not let them do what they want because you are living here, in the city.

Reports on Begin's Upcoming Visit to U.S.

Trip Preparations Begun

TA081811 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Preparations have begun in Jerusalem for the prime minister's visit to Washington at the end of this month. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that a group of Foreign Ministry or Defense Ministry officials met in Tel Aviv to formulate the details and timetable.

There has been a lack of clarity in Washington about the visit, since no instructions have yet been given to the embassy about the matter of planning. However, the prime minister's adviser on communications affairs, Uri Porat, has told our correspondent that there is no change in the plans and Mr Begin will visit the U.S. capital on the date set.

Rosenne Denies Trip Postponed

TA090544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Israel's Ambassador to Washington Me'ir Rosenne says that there have been no changes in Prime Minister Begin's travel plans with regard to his upcoming visit to Washington at the end of the month. Rosenne also told the Voice of Israel that a date has been set for a meeting between Mr Begin and U.S. President Reagan. This follows rumors that Begin's Washington visit might be postponed or canceled because of the condition of his health.

Speaking on American television last night Ambassador Rosenne said that the Soviet Union could not play a constructive role in the Middle East. He also said that the Israeli Army's planned redeployment in Lebanon is necessary to hold more defensible lines and to allow Israel to send some of its soldiers home.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Cable Supports OAU Meeting on Chad

LD100523 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] The president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN addressed a cable to President Mengistu Haile Mariam, the current OAU chairman, after the latter's decision to call a meeting of the OAU Bureau 15-16 July in Addis Ababa to discuss the situation in Chad. President Chadli Bendjedid's cable said:

I have closely examined your cable informing me of your decision, in your capacity as the current OAU chairman, to call a meeting of our organization's bureau to discuss the grave situation in Chad. Sharing your deep preoccupation aroused by this situation, like you, I am convinced that action on the part of the OAU has become preferable and suitable. In this regard Algeria considers the problems in Chad to be issues that concern Chadians alone. The return of peace to this country, which has long been destroyed by war, should definitely be achieved through dialogue and reconciliation among Chadians. Therefore, all African and non-African countries must refrain from any initiative that could (?complicate) a problem that harms the sovereignty and independence of not only Chad, but of the whole of our continent.

In his cable President Chadli Bendjedid said that the OAU, as the true expression of our countries' national independence and the ideal instrument for maintaining national independence, could and must make efforts to help the people of Chad find the path of national reconciliation that is necessary for peace and the reconstruction of the country. Thus, while responding to your call, I would like to stress to you that Algeria will participate in the proceedings of the bureau in Addis Ababa, is fully prepared to offer you all its support in your efforts, and is determined to participate in every endeavor our organization undertakes to return peace to Chad and establish national reconciliation for its fraternal people.

LIBYA

Arab People's Congress on Egypt-Iraq Relations

LD091957 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Jul (JANA) — The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress has followed with deep anxiety the development of relations between the Iraqi and Egyptian regimes, which was reflected in the meeting of Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz with the foreign minister of the Egyptian regime and in the restoration of relations between the two regimes to the level prior to the 1979 Baghdad summit.

In a press statement issued today the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress stressed that the gravity of these developments arises from the fact that this constitutes a complete abandonment of Arab summit resolutions connected with As-Sadat's signing of the Camp David accords, accords to which the Egyptian regime headed by Husni Mubarak still adheres.

The statement made it clear that this step is the culmination of earlier steps of cooperation between the two regimes for more than 2 years. With this Iraqi action, which serves the Camp David policy, the secretariat draws attention to the gravity ofdisregard for unanimous Arab resolutions, and it demands that the Arab League secretary general take the measures [words indistinct] the league in confronting the violation of its resolutions.

In its statement the secretariat called on the Arab masses to denounce the stance of the Iraqi regime, which is virtually declaring its adherence to Camp David.

USSR Said Pressuring Libya To Sign Treaty

PM081549 London Al-Majallah in Arabic 9-15 Jul 83 p 12

[From *Al-Majallah* correspondents' dispatches]

[Text] According to informed Arab diplomatic sources, the Soviet Union is currently putting "various pressures" on Libya to persuade it to sign a friendship and cooperation treaty with the Soviet Union. An understanding was reached "in principle" regarding this step during 'Abd as-Salam Jallud's recent visit to Moscow.

The sources say that a ranking Libyan official has told a number of Arab circles recently that his country does not wish to sign such a treaty and is trying to avoid such a move, but the Soviets are insisting.

Libyan Reportage on Developments in Chad

Habre Forces Flee Abeche

LD090903 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0805 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 9 Jul (JANA) — According to urgent dispatches from Ndjamena, the forces of rebel Habre abandoned their positions and fled from the town of Abeche yesterday afternoon in the face of the advance on the town by the national forces. Observers expect the town to fall in the hands of these forces, led by Goukouni Oueddei, which now control over one third of the country.

Abeche Falls to Goukouni Forces

LD091613 Tripoli JANA in English 1515 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Paris, Ramadan 29, July 9, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Adoum Yacoub, the provisional Government of National Unity's delegate announced here today that the city of Abeche, 700 km away from the Chadian capital has fallen into the hands of Goukouni's forces.

In a telephone conversation with the French news agency, the delegate also said that despite fierce resistance by Habre's forces, the town is completely under control today.

The delegate also announced the fall of Biltine 80 km north of Abeche.

Recapture of Abeche Denied

LD111027 Tripoli JANA in English 0902 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Bardai, Shawwal 1, July 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Radio Bardai, voice of the Chadian National Unity Government headed by Goukouni Oueddei and monitored in Lome, has refuted the allegations of Ndjamena's renegade clique that it had recaptured the city of Abeche.

The radio said that such allegations are groundless and circulated by the renegade clique to cover up defeats inflicted upon them by the National Liberation Army forces.

It added that the city of Abeche is still the control of the National Liberation Army forces which have been repeatedly striking at renegade Habre's clique.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Announces Postponement of Elections

LD100053 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Address delivered by King Hassan II on 8 July in Rabat on the occasion of youth day]

[Excerpts] [Dateline, passage indistinct] — My dear people, on occasions such as this it has been my usual practice to deal with issues that are of interest to your everyday lives and that relate to your march, which is studded with the most fabulous and beautiful gems. Here I want to deal with two points, which are in fact one point:

Dear people, we have decided to postpone the date of the national elections in order to become stronger and firmer to attain our national aspiration, retrieve our usurped Sahara, and retrieve it in such a manner that it cannot be maligned in any way or challenged by anyone.

As you know, my dear people, in Nairobi in 1981 we agreed to hold the referendum so that we may assert our rights, make them as clear as the sun at noon, and prove that we can stand any test the Moroccan people in the Sahara might undergo. This is based on our certainty and belief that the roots of the Moroccan people have been united by a glorious and full history. We do not know when this history began, nor do we know when it will end. Did it begin in the north Idris, the first settlement in the Atlas mountains in Zarhun, did it begin in the Sagara when the Murabitum came, or did it begin in the center when the Muwahiddun arrived? [Passage indistinct]

Therefore, no honest historian writing about the history of Morocco, its peoples, and tribes can say that it began in the north or the south. The Moroccan people have been fused into the Islamic faith and the sunnah of the Prophet. They all have been fused into one battle ever since Morocco was created: the battle of resistance and the battle to safeguard its deep roots and history, Islam, and Arabism.

In order to arrive at the desired results, which are inevitable, we must not dissipate our efforts, follow more than one path, or spread the fields of our activity in holding elections — which are, we admit, extremely important. At the same time we know that those elections will bring the election of a group that is on our side, that is of the government, and that will act in the best manner for the benefit of the people. [Passage indistinct]

These general elections are constitutionally required. The Constitution is above all other considerations and cannot be tampered with. However, this Constitution is subordinate to something much more sacred — namely, territorial integrity. This territorial integrity will make this Constitution's benefits geographically universal and all-embracing.

The African organization has taken notice. Thank God for waking it from its sleep and helping it overcome its problems. We thank God for this, even if it did take 2 years — 2 years of trouble that Morocco would have been better off without. Morocco would have preferred the referendum to take place at the end of 1981.

In order to dot the I's and cross the T's — not to convince you dear people, because you already know everything, but to convince the world community, the African community in particular, that this procrastination was not caused by Morocco, because Morocco has said and still says that its doors are open for holding this referendum — neither in the past nor at present has Morocco placed any political or material obstacles in the way of arranging and holding the referendum. Indeed, Morocco, the Moroccan Army, and Morocco's comfort and tranquility have been a victim of this procrastination, which results from conspiracies, harrassment, and delays and has tended to let the world forget that there is a Sahara problem and that the solution to this problem has been found. We do not need to search for the solution, because the solution was decided unanimously at a summit in Nairobi in 1981.

I say, and repeat here, that the homeland is forgiving and merciful. In the name of the one who was entrusted by God to run its affairs, the king and the leader of the faithful, Morocco pledges to those who have gone astray that the homeland is forgiving and merciful, and that in this context the homeland has no memory and is always prepared to burn such pages and erase them from its head and heart.

Whatever the case, we should be aware of the fact that, as far as the misguided and the strays are concerned, even if the answer is in the negative, which is inconceivable, there is nothing that can compel us to give the Sahara and the people who live in the Sahara to a group of mercenaries on a golden platter. Therefore, I say to them: In both cases you will be losers. There is no way out for you except to return to the motherland, which will teach you the meaning of warmth, the meaning of fervor, the meaning of let bygones by bygones after the embrace, and the meaning ofturning a blind eye to all the irreverent things done by recalcitrants.

I pray to Almighty God that this message reaches those whom it may concern, and I pray to Him that this appeal finds the necessary echo in their minds and their hearts, and especially because compatriotism and the love of the homeland are not rational but first of all emotional and (? patriotic).

Dear people, I am confident that in the next 6 months you will be mobilized in the north and the south, and in the east and the west — from Oujda to Casablanca and from Tangier to Al-Kuwayrah — so that your say will be one and your rank will remain united in order to face up to this test that we have accepted. The question of referendum was not imposed on us. We could not find any referendum that has been imposed on us by anyone in either recent or past history. We voluntarily accepted this referendum to demonstrate to all that we are not afraid of the challenge.

New Cabinet Reportedly To Be Formed

GF091009 Doha QNA in Arabic 0904 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Jul (QNA) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *As-Siyasah* reported today that a Moroccan government will be formed under Reda Guedira, adviser to King Hassan II, to run the parliamentary elections, which will be held next month.

Reporting from Rabat, the newspaper said the new cabinet will include the leaders of the six political parties in Morocco and a number of technocrats.

Chadian Envoy Delivers Habre Message to Hassan

LD082046 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Prime Minister Maati Bouabid this afternoon received the secretary general of the Chadian presidency and envoy of Chadian President Hissein Habre, Mr Kareem Ahmed Tokoy, who delivered a message to the prime minister from the Chadian president to His Majesty King Hassan II. The meeting was attended by Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta.

SUDAN

Armed Forces Communique on Rescue of Hostages

JN091144 Kahrtoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Jul (SUNA) — The Sudanese People's Armed Forces yesterday, Friday, carried out a successful military operation against outlaws in the township of Boma and safely freed the five hostages held captive. During the operation, 18 outlaws were killed, a number were wounded, and the rest are being pursued. One member of the People's Armed Forces was martyred and another wounded.

SUNA adds that the five hostages who were safely freed and are presently in Juba include two Americans, a West German, a Netherlander, and a Canadian working in the field of mining. It is to be noted that the outlaws kidnapped the hostages a few days ago.

The Armed People's Forces General Command issued a communique on the successful military operation carried out against the outlaws in Jabal Boma yesterday morning, Friday.

The communique notes that the outlaws in the Jabal Boma region in the Upper Nile carried out an armed attack and occupied both a police checkpoint and a hunting camp. The outlaws held five foreign workers captive who were there providing health services to the citizens in the area.

The communique adds that the group first demanded 120,000 Sudanese pounds, 150 shirts, 150 pairs of trousers, and 150 pairs of shoes and later demanded that their statement be broadcast through the local and international media apparatus.

The communique indicates that in dealing with the situation, the authorities opened the door for negotiations out of concern for the lives of the hostages and its determination to prevent further exacerbation of the situation. However, the outlaws refused to respond to all attempts to settle the issue with the People's Armed Forces in a way that would uphold the law and save the lives of the hostages.

The communique states that yesterday morning, Friday, the Armed Forces carried out an offensive against the outlaws' positions, succeeded in occupying Boma mountain and released the hostages in few hours. The outlaws sustained 18 killed and an unspecified number of wounded. The Sudanese forces were still pursuing the remaining outlaws near the Ethiopian border.

The communique adds that the information available to the security authorities irrefutably proves that foreign parties were behind the operation that was carried out by this group of outlaws and that continuous contacts have been taking place between this group annd the Libyan Government.

The communique says that two members of this group visited Libya and during their stay were trained by Cuban forces present in Libya. It was also observed that during the negotiations, which were conducted with this group of outlaws by radio over the past few days, a person speaking the Libyan dialect interfered several times in the negotiations.

The communique indicates that the political leadership's directives affirms the need of not giving in to terrorism and of preserving the safety of the hostages without encroaching on the sovereignty and unity of Sudan. From this premise, the situation was handled in a way that embodied these directives.

On the successful military oepration in Jabal Boma, the communique says that it was carried out with high efficiency. During the operation, the Armed Forces managed to keep it a complete surprise and contained the situation in a very short time, demonstrating their ability to confront all circumstances.

The communique says that the first vice president congratulated all members of the Armed forces. He expressed pride in what they achieved, especially considering the period of time in which the operation was completed. The outlaws and those behind them thought the operation was impossible in view of the prevalent natural conditions in the Jabal Boma region.

SUNA carries the following text of the communique issued by the People's Armed Forces General Command.

The People's Armed Forces General Command issues the following communique: On 28 June, a group of outlaws in the Jabal Boma region in the Upper Nile near the Ethiopian border carried out an armed attack against a police checkpoint in Jabal Boma. They occupied the checkpoint and a hunting camp, and captured five foreign workers from missionary and health organizations who were providing health services to the citizens in the region.

The group, which claimed that it belonged to the liberation front of southern Sudan, demanded 120,000 Sudanese pounds, 150 shirts, 150 pairs of trousers, and 150 pairs of shoes. Afterward, the group demanded that their statement be broadcast through the local and international media apparatus.

The authorities maintained a close watch over the situation in the region and opened negotiations in order to save the lives of the hostages. The authorities appointed (Philip Obaniq), the deputy governor of the Upper Nile Region, as their negotiator to affirm its determination to contain the situation and prevent it from being escalated.

The negotiations with the outlaws continued in an attempt to convince them to release the hostages. However, they refused to respond to all attempts, forcing our Armed Forces to handle the situation in a way that preserved the lives of the hostages and upheld the sovereignty of the law.

This morning, our Armed Forces carried out an offensive against the outlaws' positions, in which a backed company [as received] participated, and succeeded in occupying Boma mountain and rescuing the five hostages in a few hours' time.

The outlaws sustained 18 killed and an unspecified number of wounded. Our losses amounted to one martyr and two wounded. The pursuit of the rest of the outlaws, who are heading toward the Ethiopian border, continues.

The information available to the security authorities irrefutably proves that foreign parties are behind the operation which was carried out by the outlaws. This is substantiated by the continuous contacts that have been taking place between this group and the Libyan Government. Two members of this group, (Pavan Amum), a student in the faculty of law at Khartoum University; and (Ofili), a student in the faculty of law at Cairo University, Khartoum branch; had paid visits to Libya during which time they were trained by Cuban forces present in Libya. They recently returned to the country to carry out the Libyan scheme in southern Sudan. The group of outlaws was divided into three groups that were to carry out armed activities. It was decided that 1 May would be the date for carrying out the sabotage operations.

The information available also reveals that a member of this group of outlaws recently held intensive contacts with a communist country for providing a supply of weapons and ammunition to the outlaws.

It has also been observed that during the negotiations, which were conducted with this group of outlaws by radio over the past few days, a person speaking the Libyan dialect interfered several times and asked that the government negotiator to speak in Arabic.

The political leadership's directives affirmed the need of not giving in to terrorism, of preserving the safety of the hostages, and the unity of Sudan without encroaching on Sudan's sovereignty and unity. From this premise, the situation was handled in a way that embodied these directives and confirmed the capability of our Armed Forces in confronting all circumstances with the required decisiveness. The Armed Forces also showed their commitment to carry out their duties of protecting the country, safeguarding its territory, and ensuring that the sovereignty of law and order prevails. [Passage indistinct]

Numayri Makes Statement on Chad, PLO, Other Issues

JN101125 Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] [Passage indistinct] Retorting SUNA question on foreign sabotage or involvement, the president confirmed that Libya extended million of dollars for subversion in the Sudan.

About the Arab situation after the visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to the area, President Numayri said that the Arabs have to resort to negotiations putting peace as a goal.

No Arab state could wage a war now, not even a guerrilla war, the president added.

He stated that the Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, which had been countering the enemy was striked.

President Numayri went on saying that Syria, which used to conduct subversive activities when the Arabs realize or at the verge of realizing positive results. [sentence as received]

He further voiced his condemnation to the killing and expulsion of Palestinian fighters.

On the situation in Lebanon Numayri said that embattled government in Lebanon occupied by the Israeli, Syrian and other [words indistinct] has no power to decide in this regard.

The president lashed out Syria, saying that would not adopt any resolution unless it consults Moscow.

Speaking on his call for holding an urgent mini Arab summit, the president said this call aims at adopting resolution about the future of Palestine.

About his message to Mr 'Arafat, Numayri said he received a message from 'Arafat blessing his initiative and any other plan aim at rescuing the organization and the Palestinian revolution.

President Numayri announced that the Libyan Army is now the actual aggressor on the legitimate rule in Chad. This Libyan attack is not directed against the legitimate government in Chad but is aimed at Sudan and we are preparing to counter it, President Numayri added. He confirmed that Col. al-Qadhdhafi is intending to drag Sudan to a war inside Chad but we know when to enter a battle.

Referring to the presence of Col. al-Qadhdhafi's troops near the Sudanese borders, President Numayri said that we know when to plan for a battle but not at the time Al-Qadhdhafi plans for.

President Numayri assured that the forces that invaded Chad are Libyan forces with mercenaries polarized by Col. al-Qadhdhafi from a number of African states and trained in Libyan camps. He confirmed that Col. al-Qadhdhafi is a tool in the hands of colonialism in the Arab and African arena.

The president asserted that the hands behind Boma incident intend to make disorder in the country to show world opinion that there is political force fighting in the south.

There will be inquiry with the hostages about the incident and the reasons behind their visit to this remote area. The inquiry will also cover the reasons which make planes landing in this area without the government prior knowledge and will also deal with the reasons behind links with other foreign powers.

The president made it clear that Sudan will not tolerate any violation in its sovereignty and will not be swayed by the directions of other foreign powers.

President Numayri ridiculously said that the Syrian deterence army wiped out the Palestinian referring to Tal az-Za'tar precedent and other incident in which the Syrian slaughtered the Palestinians.

The president expressed his hope that the Arabs would bear full responsibility and adopt conclusive resolutions against Syria and Libya.

Turning to Egypt, Numayri said that the role played by Egypt is too heavy to any other Arab state to burden.

The president hailed Camp David accords, saying that it made many achievements including the evacuation of the Israeli from the occupied land and give Egypt sovereigty over its own territories.

About the acceptance of Egypt's participation in the quadrilateral summit, President Nuamyri said that it is not a matter of acceptance, it is a matter of existence or nonexistence of Palestine.

He confirmed that since the signing of the accord Egypt has been the most working Arab state for the interest of Arab cause. Having these qualities Egypt should participate in [words indistinct] it gives all its care, Numayri added.

He stated that Egypt is the state that clarified the Palestinian revolution to the world opinion and in the United Nations.

All the Arab states admit Egypt's pioneering role in the Arab world.

About a possible Sudanese initiative issue of Western Sahara Numayri pointed to Sudan's role in the Organization of African Unity recent summit of Addis Ababa on authorizing a committees to undertake the implementation of the OAU resolutions including the [words indistinct] the Polisario Front agreed on the referendum added.

The president blasted the former secretary general of OAU, saying that received money and so complicated the whole issue.

Finally the president said that the decisions of the committee formed on implementation of OAU resolutions on the referendum must be consulted and called on all African states to stand (?behind it) in its work.

Numayri Receives Message From 'Arafat

JN081049 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] [Dateline indistinct] —Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, has sent a message to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri dealing with the current Arab situation and the latest developments in the Palestinian arena. President Numayri's personal envoy, Muhammad Mahjub Sulayman, received the message here in Tunis.

President Numayri had sent a message to 'Arafat which Muhammad Mahjub Sulayman delivered last Tuesday. In his message, President Numayri expressed concern over the clashes that took place in the Al-Biqa' Valley between the Palestinian revolution forces loyal to 'Arafat and the Syrian-backed dissident forces. President Numayri also urged 'Arafat to call for the convening of an urgent limited Arab conference to support the Palestinian revolution, indicating the need for quick action to save the Palestinian revolution from any blow that Israel and others might deal.

SUNA: Chad Spokesman Affirms Libyan Involvement

JN091802 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July, 9, (SUNA) — Chadian Information Minister and Government official spokesman Soumaila Mhamat revealed today that 3000 Libyan soldiers are taking part in the current clashes in north and east Chad. The Libyan soldiers' involvement has actively begun immediately after the battle of Oum Chalouba, the minister said in press statements here today. The Chadian official announced that the battle is now continuing around Abeche and Biltine. He added that the Libyans are attacking these towns not only for their strategic locations but to disturb the stability of neighbouring countries as well.

TUNISIA

Ministerial Committee Reportedly To Visit Libya

GF081940 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1850 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Rabat, 8 Jul (WAKH) — Tunisian diplomatic sources here told the WAKH correspondent that Tunisia will send a four-minister committee to Libya after the blessed 'Id al-Fitr with the aim of explaining Tunisia's viewpoint on the agreement it signed with Algeria about 2 months ago. The sources added that this should end the Libyan-Tunisian misunderstanding that has prevailed in Libyan-Tunisian relations and made Libya accuse Tunisia of throwing itself into the arms of Algeria. The sources noted that the task of this committee, which is made up of the ministers of planning, finance, economy, and agriculture, will include the arrangement of a high-level Libyan-Tunisian meeting to be held in Tripoli on 25 July.

ETHIOPIA

EPLF Reports Ethiopian Losses in 6 July Attacks

EA101729 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] According to reports reaching us from the Nacfa front, 296 enemy soldiers were killed, more than 300 wounded, and 5, including 1 second lieutenant, were captured during an attack launched by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] on 6 July. Fifty-five Kalashnikovs, 14 Bren guns, 3 RPG's, 2 pistols, and 1 PRP 77 radio were also captured. One ammunition depot and one supply store were also burned down.

Hal-Hal front: The heroic fighters of the EPLF launched a broad attack against the army of Ethiopian invaders at (Asmat), (Orota), and (Adait). During this ongoing attack, which opened on 6 July, the EPLF has delivered heavy blows to the enemy force deployed on this front, which is strongly armed and supported by jet fighters and helicopters.

The enemy has so far suffered 430 dead, more than 635 wounded, and 63 captured. Also captured were 195 medium and light weapons, 1 Browning pistol, 1 14.5mm antiaircraft piece, 3 PRC 77 communications radios, 1,002 antipersonnel mines, and a quantity of ammunition and handgrenades.

More on Fighting

NC091322 Paris AFP in English 1305 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Mogadishu, July 9 (AFP) — The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) today said its forces have killed 726 Ethiopian regular troops, wounded 937 and captured 68 others in fresh fighting in the Hal-Hal and Nafca regions.

In a communique, the EPLF office here said its guerrillas had inflicted heavy losses on the Ethiopian Government forces which, it said, were supported by MIG-21 and MIG-23 fighter planes, MI-24 helicopter gunships and Antonov bombers.

The communique said that intense battles had been continuing for the last three days at the battle front at Asmat, Oreta and Adait. "We have attacked the enemy and forced them to abandon their trenches and fortifications," it said.

The battle area in Eritrea, where liberation movements have been fighting for some 20 years for independence from the central government in Addis Ababa, had been quiet for three weeks until the new fighting erupted last Wednesday, according to the communique.

No mention was made of EPLF casualties.

KENYA

Revised Trade Agreement Signed With USSR

AB082100 Paris AFP in English 1516 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Nairobi, July 8 (AFP) — Kenya and the Soviet Union today signed a revised trade agreement aimed at increasing trade volume between the two countries. Kenyan Commerce Minister John Okwanyo and Soviet First Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade Gennadiy K. Zhuravlyov signed the agreement here on behalf of their governments.

Mr. Okwanyo said trade flow between the two countries had in the past been characterised by low volume and a small range of Kenyan exports to the Soviet Union.

The first trade agreement between them was signed in 1964, one year after this East African country became independent and Mr. Okwanyo expressed the hope today that the revised agreement would boost trade and economic cooperation for the benefit of the two countries.

The Soviet Union is currently importing large quantities of fluorspar from Kenya and the delegation is here to negotiate with the Kenya National Trading Corporation the purchase of 5,000 tons each of sisal and tea. They will also examine possibilities of buying pyrethrum, a spokesman for the delegation was quoted by the official KENYA NEWS AGENCY (KNA) as saying.

The delegation later paid a courtesy call on President Daniel arap Moi at his official residence in Nairobi where he urged the Soviet Union to assist Kenya to improve its foreign trade by buying more of its produce.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan Reports SNM Attacks, Reprisals

LD092019 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] The Somali Nationalist Movement [SNM] wing of the Somali opposition forces killed 21 soldiers and wounded many others after the fighters of the SNM launched an attack against the base of the Barre loyalist forces at Erigavo in Senag region. The report from the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces adds that the fighters lost one martyr.

According to the report, the Barre loyalist forces turned their guns on the general public living in and around Erigavo in reprisal for the action by the SNM wing. The Barre loyalists have carried out shameful acts against the people in revenge for the successful operations of the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces.

340 Government Soldiers Said To Defect

EA092153 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Reports reaching us from the high command of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] wing of the Somali opposition forces state that 340 soldiers formerly loyal to the Barre regime have defected to the General Aynanshe and Captain Gorod Bases of the DFSS.

Radio Halgan reporters stationed at the General Aynanshe and Captain Gorod Bases confirm that the total number of defectors to the DFSS wing, including the 109 soldiers who went over to the 9th General Aynanshe Division last week, has now reached 449.

The information secretary of the DFSS wing, Mr Abd ar-Rahman Aydid Ahmad, who has been on a working tour of the liberated areas and the DFSS bases in those areas, said that the administration of the dictatorial Barre regime has collapsed in several regions of the country. The 449 Barre loyalist soldiers who have thus far defected to the armed struggle come from Hiran, Mudugh, Nogal, Saneg, and Tug Dere regions.

The report on the defecting soldiers states that the regime's forces have now collapsed, with some of its elements fleeing into the bush and others defecting to the armed struggle opposed to the oppressive regime led by General Barre.

TANZANIA

Prime Minister Calls for Better Ties With Kenya

EA092136 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Arusha — Prime Minister Ndugu Edward Sokoine has declared that Chama Cha Mapinduzi favors the maintenance of relations between Tanzania and neighboring countries.

Speaking to residents of Longido in Arusha region, Ndugu Sokoine said the breakup of the East African Community in 1977 and the border dispute between Tanzanian and Kenya should not cause hostility between Tanzania and Kenya.

Ndugu Sokoine recommended that embassies be established in Kenya and Tanzania as a means of promoting cooperation between the two countries. He noted that livestock markets mustbe established between Kenya and Tanzania so as to foster bilateral trade relations and to put an end to cattle rustling on the two countries' border.

Ndugu Sokoine said the closure of the border between these countries should not be an excuse for failing to establish trade relations.

Ndugu Sokoine, who is the MP for Monduli, is on a working visit to his constituency.

UGANDA

Obote Receives PRC, USSR Ambassadors

LD081930 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] President Milton Obote has received the Chinese and Soviet ambassadors to Uganda. The meeting took place at the president's office in Kampala.

First to be received was the Chinese ambassador, Mr Li Shi, who has just returned from Beijing for consultation. Dr Obote told the envoy that Ugandans are determined to overcome the present difficult economic situation first by their own efforts and second with the assistance of friendly countries, of which China is one. He explained that the immediate objective is to rehabilitate the agricultural sector, which will in turn produce the process for the rehabilitation of other sectors of the economy. The president and the ambassador reviewed bilateral economic relations between Uganda and China. They agreed to strengthen areas of cooperation.

Later the president received the Soviet ambassador, Mr Sergey Bukin, who is returning home on leave. The ambassador briefed the president on the Soviet Union's position on the dialogue for the establishment of a new economic order that was discussed at the recent UN Conference on Trade and Development meeting in Belgrade. The ambassador informed the president that the Soviet Union supports the call by developing countries for global negotiations and the establishment of a new international economic order. On bilateral relations, the president and the ambassador agreed that a Uganda trade delegation would soon be visiting the Soviet Union.

CHAD

More on Fighting in Oum Chalouba Region

Government Forces Counterattack

PM081457 Paris Le Monde in French 8 Jul 83 p 4

["F.C." report: "Government Troops Have Apparently Launched Counteroffensive in Northeast"]

[Text] Fighting is still going on in the Oum Chalouba region in northeastern Chad where, according to Ndjamena radio, government forces have launched a counteroffensive. Indeed, it seems that the small garrison stationed in Oum Chalouba withdrew to Arada, approximately 100km to the south, on Tuesday 5 July and joined reinforcements which arrived during the day before launching the counterattack. According to a good source, the fighting on Tuesday was fierce and the government forces inflicted serious losses on a column of former President Goukouni Oueddei's partisans.

In Paris on Wednesday Justice Minister Oudalbaye Naham, the Chadian president's special envoy, handed Mr Guy Penne, Mr Mitterrand's adviser for African affairs, a personal message from Mr Hissein Habre to the president of the republic. Although its contents were not revealed, it is thought to contain a request for Paris to assist in transporting the equipment it has supplied to Ndjamena to the country's interior, especially to Abeche, Salal, and Moussoro.

Ndjamena, whose main fear is the rapid opening of a second front in the central region, would like to be able to speed up the transport of reinforcements. President Hissein Habre is also trying to determine the point at which France might envisage increasing its support for Ndjamena.

For its part, the rebel radio broadcasting from Bardai in the Tibesti region stated that "the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] is forced to appeal to its friends, and especially to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, with which Chad has a treaty of friendship and alliance" (dated 15 June 1980). In addition, the GUNT communique states that "France's massive involvement at the side of the forces of national annihilation is an attack on our people. This attitude by France, supported by the United States, not only endangers the Chadian people by supplying their enemies with weapons of death and with mercenaries, but is also an escalation toward theinternationalization of the conflict."

In this connection, Bardai Radio condemned the presence of Zairian soldiers in Chad, specifying that Mr Goukouni's "National Liberation Army" would not be responsible for what might happen to those soldiers should they be captured. The Zairian contingent of 250 men is still stationed in Ndjamena, where it has been given the mission of defending the airport.

Further on Habre Counterattack

AB081455 Paris AFP in French 1411 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 8 Jul (AFP) — It was learned from official sources in Ndjamena that the National Armed Forces of Chad (FAN) opened a new round of fighting on Friday near Oum Chalouba, situated 250 km north of Abeche (eastern Chad), against supporters of former President Goukouni Oueddei.

The same sources added that the FAN regained the initiative after reorganizing and receiving reinforcements via Abeche and Biltine (90 km from Abeche). Moreover, in contrast to reports from certain quarters, the Chadian press denied on Friday that the town of Salal had fallen to the supporters of the former Chadian president.

On Thursday, government forces launched a counteroffensive against Goukouni Oueddei's troops in the Oum Chalouba palm plantations. Authorized sources in the Chadian capital stressed that the losses during the fighting on Thursday were heavy on both sides.

Military Aid Reportedly Requested From Morocco

LD091202 Kuwait KUNA in English 1036 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Rabat, July 9 (KUNA) — Chad has asked Morocco for military aid to confront a rebellion in its province, it was reported here Saturday.

Visiting Chadian envoy Kareem A. Tokoy delivered a message Friday from President Hissein Habre to King Hassan II, an official announcement said without disclosing contents of the message.

The Chadian envoy also held talks with the Moroccan premier, Maati Bouabid, and Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta, apparently on the same issue.

An official source, however, told KUNA Habre asked King Hassan in the message for military assistance to help government troops confront the rebellion led by former President Goukouni Oueddei. Exact nature of the requested military aid was not disclosed.

GUNT Said To Capture 'Strategic Town' of Abeche

AB090852 Paris AFP in English 0838 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Paris, July 9 (AFP) — Troops loyal to ousted Chadian crossroads town 700 km (435 miles) east of Ndjamena, a spokesman in Paris for Mr Goukouni's rival administration said today.

Spokesman Adoum Yacoub told AFP that forces of Mr Goukouni's Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) were in full control of Abeche by dusk last night, despite resistance offered by the soldiers of President Hissein Habre.

Mr Yacoub said that GUNT troops had also captured Biltine, a town about 80 km (50 miles) to the north of Abeche.

Observers in Paris said that the fall of Abeche would represent a major setback for Mr Habre and could prove to be the decisive battle in Mr Goukouni's bid to return to power.

The capture of Abeche, only two weeks after the fall to the insurgents of Chad's northern capital, Faya-Largeau, would mean that Mr Goukouni's troops are free to link up with rebel [word indistinct] east-central and southern Chad. They would also be in a position to cut off Mr Habre's supporters from their traditional refuge in the east of the country.

Control of the airfield at Abeche, which can handle medium-size transport planes, would moreover give the Goukouni forces a welcome supply point.

A GUNT victory at Abeche would mean that the announced counter-offensive by Mr Habre's government army (FAN) at Oum Chalouba, 230 km (145 miles) north of Abeche, has been unsuccessful.

The GUNT troops seem to be accelerating their advance and slowly isolating Ndjamena, which lies to their west, on Chad's river border with Cameroon.

Libyan Units 'Spotted Participating'

JN091320 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1330 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Reports from Ndjamena, citing an official source, confirm that fiery battles continue to rage around the township of Abeche, in eastern Chad. The official source added that Chadian forces are expected to pull out of the town in an attempt to reorganize their defensive lines. The official source affirmed that significant Libyan units have been spotted participating in these battles.

Abeche Reportedly Recaptured

NC101603 Paris AFP in English 1600 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Paris, July 10 (AFP) — Chadian Government troops have recaptured the strategic town of Abeche in eastern Chad, according to the Chadian charge d'affaires here, Ahmad Allam-mi.

Mr Allam-mi said the town was retaken at midday today following a counter-offensive launched this morning by the Chadian army of Hissein Habre against troops of ousted Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei.

Mr Goukouni's Transitional Government of National Unity announced yesterday morning that they had seized the town, about 700 kms (437 miles) east of Ndjamena, and an African source confirmed the report.

The Ndjamena troops evacuated the town on Friday but official Chadian sources never mentioned its capture by the rebel Libyan-backed forces. Mr Goukouni already holds the main northern town of Faya-Largeau.

Mr Allam-mi said that fighting was continuing north of Abeche, along the road linking the town to Oum Chalouba. He added that the government troops launched their attack in this region at the same time as on Abeche in order to cut off the lines of communication of the Goukouni troops. He also said the government army was "combing" the road between Abeche and the Sudan border for Goukouni men.

Bardai Radio Interviews GUNT Chief of Staff

AB101000 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Interview with the chief of staff of the National Liberation Army — names of chief of staff and reporter not given — date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Comrade General, after Gouro and Ounianga, the National Liberation Army [NLA] is now in Faya. What do these (?victories) represent?

[Chief of Staff] The capture of Faya by the NLA is indeed a major event. But this victory in the first offensive launched by our army is only the first phase of our mission — the liberation of the Chadian homeland. In terms of a military achievement, the fall of Faya is indeed a valuable beginning. It is a strategic point for us [words indistinct]. With Faya, we have greater freedom of movement in our advance toward our objective, that is, the liberation of the south, a less difficult region as the landscape does not present many difficulties to our organization.

[Reporter] The malicious propaganda of global imperialism and reaction speaks of (?Libyan) aerial support [words indistinct].

[Chief of Staff] Of course, I believe that this campaign, orchestrated by those who are seeking to win support for the imperialist regime established in Ndjamena, cannot deceive anyone. What we want to say is that we have received logistical support from Libya. This means that we have received materiel with which to equip Chadians. The materiel is employed by Chadians who are now familiar with its use. Anyone can now come to inspect our units, to assess our [words indistinct].

On the day of the attack on Faya, surprisingly enough, members of the world voluntary medical team [Doctors Without Borders], including an American and delegates from brotherly countries, were present, and these witnesses can say whether they saw a single plane over Faya that day. They are in a position to tell the whole world if we used a single plane or soldier from the the so-called Libyan forces.

We cannot deny that our equipment was supplied by the Libyan revolution and that the equipment is being used by Chadians. I want to seize this opportunity to again reiterate my gratitude and thanks to the Libyan revolution, which made it possible for us to carry out this operation. But, however important that materiel may be, our efficiency is due essentially to the determination of the men who are using the materiel, that is, the soldiers of the NLA. No verbal threat can (?harm them).

[Question indistinct]

[Chief of Staff] As I said earlier, heroism does not come with age. As you may have noticed yourself, we have not given up an inch of territory captured since (?Ounianga). Following our first offensive, it is (?obvious) that the NLA wants to carry out its operations in an efficient and well-coordinated way. The number of prisoners and the people we captured wandering around Faya, as well as the quantity of equipment seized from the enemy, are sufficient proof that although it is not a good war machine, it is at least a [passage indistinct]

AFP Reports Interview

AB100845 Paris AFP in French 0724 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Lome, 10 Jul (AFP) — The chief of staff of the Chadian NLA [National Liberation Army], the military arm of Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union Government, GUNT, said on Saturday evening that the equipment being used by his troops was supplied by Libya.

Speaking on the GUNT's radio, transmitting from Bardai, in Tibesti (northern Chad) and monitored in Lome, this high military official of the GUNT declared: "We cannot deny that our military materiel was supplied by the Libyan revolution, but it is being used by Chadians." "Once again I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Libyan revolution, which has made it possible for us to go through with our operations," he added.

Questioned on French assistance to Hissein Habre's troops, this official said that he was waiting to see how these armaments would be used "on the field." "In any case," he noted, "this is not a threat to the NLA." He also asked for "a little more patience" from the NLA guerrilla fighters in the center of the country. "Within a few days, it will be possible to link up with them," he added.

On the other hand, Radio Bardai has not commented on the change in the military situation in the east, notably within the sector of the regional capital, Abeche. It has simply repeated on two occasions a message to the "NLA commando forces in the center, east, and south" of Chad, ordering them into action "immediately according to given directives" and "to block all exits" of government troops.

Goukouni Denies Foreign Participation

AB081210 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Message from Goukouni Oueddei to National Liberation Army combatants and to revolutionary militants on the capture of Fada, Oum Chalouba, and Arada — date and place not given]

[Text] [Passage indistinct] I want to remind international and especially Zairian national opinion of the failures of the French intervention troops that were in Chad from 1968 until their final expulsion from our country in 1980 under circumstances well known to everyone. I wish a pleasant time to any reactionary country directed from abroad that may wish to intervene in our internal affairs.

Brothers and sisters, fighters of the National Liberation Army [NLA]: For a long time now, the FAN has tried to impress the notion of a so-called presence of foreign troops in our ranks on national and international opinion. I am surprised at the refusal of the Ndjamena clique to receive a fact-finding mission which OAU Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam has decided to send. The refusal is further evidence that the FAN's allegations are baseless and gratuitous. The FAN fears that the international mission might unveil the gross lies which would make their proteges think twice and leave the puppet forces to their sad fate.

I want to say this clearly: There are no foreign troops in our midst. Several reports by the international press have confirmed this. Valiant fighters of the NLA: I am convinced that you are capable of crushing the national reactionary forces and their allies. However, if the need arises, we can be assured of the active support of our progressive and socialist friends in the world. The FAN will be responsible for all the consequences of their moves both internally and externally.

In conclusion, I wish to make a vibrant appeal to all revolutionary militants and to all Chadians to mobilize themselves around the NLA in order to drive the occupiers out of our country. The liberation struggle being waged by the valiant fighters of the NLA concerns all of us: farmers, cattle breeders, traders, workers, students, men and women. Whether you are inside the country or in one of the many friendly countries which have kindly granted you temporary shelter, you must all consider yourselves to be soldiers at the front, ready to carry out the revolutionary struggle to free our fatherland, which is threatened by puppet forces in the pay of international imperialism.

Down with international imperialism! Immortal glory to all our martyrs! Long live the NLA so that the people's revolution will prevail! Long live free Chad!

GUNT Communique on OAU Role in Conflict

AB082000 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] This Chadian problem is very complicated and very important. This is so because reactionary countries such as Sudan and others like it are asking the OAU to send a force to intervene in Chad with the aim of organizing free elections. Everyone, including Hissein Habre, knows [words indistinct] power in Ndjamena.

The OAU recently pointed out in Addis Ababa that the Chadian file is already closed. Now that the gang leader is in trouble, people talk about elections and the dispatch of a peacekeeping force to Chad. In the face of this embarrassing situation, the Ministry of External Relations and Cooperation has reacted by issuing a clear statement which will be read shortly by (Tele Hougan Nelas), secretary of state for external relations and cooperation:

[Begin recording] Following the laudable initiative taken by some African countries urging the OAU to send another inter-African force, the Ministry of External Relations and Cooperation of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) must point out the following:

In fact, the 18th summit in Nairobi adopted a resolution reaffirming the legitimacy of the GUNT. It also recommended sending an inter-African peacekeeping force to Chad. The mission of the force was to ensure the security and integrity of the country. It was also to assist the GUNT in setting up an integrated national army. An agreement on the deployment of this force was signed between the current chairman of the OAU and the president of the GUNT. Instead of carrying out the mission that was entrusted to it, the inter-African force turned on the government troops, with the complicity of French-American imperialism, which financed the force. This peacekeeping force helped to infiltrate the rebel troops of Hissein Habre into Ndjamena on 7 June 1982. The mission of the inter-African peacekeeping force in Chad was, therefore, a failure. It came on behalf of the OAU to betray the Chadian people who had confidence in it.

So, taking this bitter experience into account, the Chadian people will not accept being once again stabbed in the back by yet another inter-African or international force whose unavowed mission will be no different from that carried out so faithfully by the previous pan-African force. However, the GUNT, which represents the legitimate interests of the Chadian people, is prepared to accept and welcome the OAU inquiry commission on the alleged presence of Libyan troops in Chad and within the ranks of the National Liberation Army. [end recording]

GHANA

Official Comments on 19 June, Class Struggle

AB090916 Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] The secretary for the National Defense Committee [NDC], Professor Mawuse Dake, has declared that the events of June 19 have further sharpened the class struggle and exposed the reactionary elements in Ghana, and the big demonstrations and rallies organized by the people in support of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] disprove the false propaganda of reactionaries that the mass of the Ghanaians are opposed to the 31 December process. He said this at a news conference in Accra today.

Professor Mawuse Dake noted that the demands of the people are for more decisive action against subversionists, the establishment of a people's militia, and the speeding up of the revolutionary transformation of the state machinery, including the judiciary.

He said the establishment of an effective people's militia will depend on careful planning based on the level of political organization and discipline of the popular forces. Prof Mawuse Dake said that the NDC understands the recent resolution of the Accra-Tema defense committees on the judiciary as showing their disgust with the role the old judicial system has played in the oppression of workers. It believes, however, that a spontaneous declaration by one group cannot be considered decisive on an important national issue such as the future of the judiciary. He said the judiciary is a central institution of the state, the administrative machinery of the whole legal system of the country.

The NDC recognizes that the present system has to be transformed as part of the revolutionary process, but such transformation must be done in a way to avoid the creation of a vacuum. Prof Mawuse Dake declared: The struggle is not to merely dismantle old institutions but, more importantly, to replace them with better ones. Toward improving the legal system, Prof Mawuse Dake said the NDC saw the need for the establishment of a judicial review committee to study all aspects of justice, law practice, and training in the country and to propose reforms. He announced that the NDC is engaged in consultations with the relevant revolutionary organs and other groups concerned on the matter.

Government Warns Food Sellers About High Prices

AB082155 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Food sellers have again been warned that the government will soon be forced to take drastic and unpleasant measures against them if they continue to unheed the numerous appeals that have been made to them to reduce their prices. The warning was given by a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Mrs Aana Enims, when she addressed market women in Accra today. The meeting was called to find out why, even though foodstuff have started coming in abundance, their prices are so scaring.

Mrs Enims reminded the market women that the masses are suffering in their hands and if they do not resolve to reduce prices of foodstuff, the PNDC will be forced to deal with them ruthlessly. The chairman of the Accra City Council, Mr Enoch Mensah, said the government does not want to send market women to price tribunals, but if they fail to bring down prices, the government will take that action. The market women alleged that the middlemen who bring the foodstuff from the hinterland are responsible for the high prices.

'Public Anxiety' About Fuel Shortage Reported

AB071930 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Once again the minister of fuel and power has come out with a statement to allay public anxiety about the level of petrol supplies in the country. This follows the ever increasing long petrol queues and rush for supply for both immediate and future consumption. In the following report, George Bailey looks at the factors culminating in the present situation and the expected developments:

[Begin recording] To the population in Brong Ahafo, northern, upper east, and upper west regions of the country, never-ending petrol queues and a resort to walk the long distances is an old story. Problems of transport and bad roads constantly have them not giving too much thought to relying on vehicles for most of their errands. Accra, as the capital of the country, with the largest number of vehicles and several vital activities and with the Tema oil refinery nearby, does not experience fuel shortages too often. If the situation arises, there is normally a quick explanation coming from the authorities.

In the middle of last month, an apparent fuel shortage raised eyebrows and the Ministry of Fuel and Power rose to the occasion to explain. Two out of the three oil boilers at the Tema oil refinery were under repairs. The estimated time of completion of the job was 5 days from the day of the explanation. Meanwhile, enough fuel was held in stock to be served during the period, though the usual allocations suffered a temporary setback. Things got back to the right track after some time.

But the situation at filling stations in Accra for the better part of this month is grim. Vehicles are chained up for hundreds of meters along the road and supplies are currently less than demand. People also mass up at vehicle stopping points for long hours. Apparently out of [words indistinct] for a change in the state of affairs, rumors became ripe that the country was running out of fuel.

The situation persists and in the midst of it, the Ministry of Fuel and Power raised its voice on the happening. It put out a statement describing the rumors as without foundation. It depicts the situation as one of panic with motorists buying more than their normal requirements. The statement confessed that as a routine measure dictated occasionally by the quantity of fuel in stock, the ministry 2 months ago temporarily reduced the weekly allocations from the Tema refinery to a level which in normal circumstances should be enough to meet the fuel requirements of the motoring public. This action was taken pending the arrival of crude oil [words indistinct] which vessels could not be positioned until last week. Thirty-five thousand metric tons of crude oil are reported to have been delivered to the Tema refinery for processing, and the statement concluded that the Ministry of Fuel and Power will shortly revert to normal drawings from the refinery.

It is still not easy to get around since people walk for long hours and distances to their destinations. Several errands have to be canceled. Vehicles have been spending days in queues at the filling stations apparently clutching onto the assurances of normalcy from the Ministry of Fuel and Power. The numerical strength of stationary vehicles at the filling stations in Accra of late makes it imperative for statistics to be compiled for use in future projections in strategies for fuel allocation adjustments. [end recording]

Distribution System Announced

AB072150 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The Ministry of Fuel and Power has reaffirmed that it will soon be in a position to increase weekly fuel allocations to the oil marketing companies for distribution. A statement issued in Accra this afternoon by the ministry said it is hoped that the fuel supply situation will start getting to normal as from next week. Until then, the ministry has decided to inject some discipline in the distribution system to reduce the wasteful queues and unnecessary pandemonium at the filling stations. With immediate effect, a number of filling stations have been designated in Accra and Tema to serve only commercial vehicles on specific days of the week.

The statement said private vehicles will be served in the normal way at all filling stations not otherwise designated. The statement requests all motorists to cooperate fully to make the temporary arrangement a success until the fuel situation is back to normal.

Aid for Returnees To Be Based on Productivity

AB101120 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] The criteria for the distribution of relief items to returnees will now be based on productivity. The chairman of the National Mobilization Committee, Commodore Obimpeh, made this known when he addressed 65 returnees on a farm at Agona-Aduakwa during a tour of returnee farms in the Agona and Winneba districts. He commended the returnees for accepting the government's call to go into farming. He assured them that whatever relief items the committee receives will reach them in the farms. Commodore Obimpeh asked the returnees to increase their acreages.

The returnees have so far cultivated 10 acres of maize and cassava. The chairman of the relief and Supply Management Committee, Mr J.E. K. Haygan, presented the returnees with a number of items including 60 pairs of canvas shoes and T-shirts. Each returnee was also given 5 bags of rice and flour. The central regional secretary, Mr Tandoh, appealed to them not to lead bad lives but to concentrate on farming.

In a petition, the returnees asked for Wellington boots, tents, and tractors, as well as drugs.

LIBERIA

New Minister of Foreign Affairs Appointed

AB101205 Paris AFP in French 1040 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Monrovia, [no date as received] — Ernest Eastman, the secretary general of the Mano River Union grouping Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea, has been appointed Liberia's minister of foreign affairs, a communique from the Executive Mansion indicated on Saturday. Mr Eastman replaces Henry Boima Fahnbulleh, who was fired on 4 July for an "ideological philosophy" that is incompatible with the ruling military body in Monrovia.

School Officials Dismissed After Investigation

AB080945 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Following investigations into this week's student unrest at the Saniquellie Central High School in Nimba County, two officials have been dismissed from the school by the Ministry of Education. The vice principal, Eddie H. Musay, and social committee chairman George Konye were dismissed and imprisoned for allegedly inciting students of the school to engage in the riot with the administration.

The LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY [LINA] quoted deputy education minister for administration Dr Richard Robert as saying that the two dismissed officials would not be permitted to teach in any public school in Liberia for a period of 5 years. Dr Robert said the action of the two instructors was [word indistinct] the trust and confidence placed in them by the government [words indistinct] of the students.

The dismissals followed a 2-day investigation conducted by a four-man delegation from the Ministry of Education headed by Dr Richard Robert in recent crises leading to the recent student riot in which 13 people were injured. A LINA correspondent at Saniquellie said the investigation revealed that the two instructors were aware of the planned riot by the student and had largely contributed to it.

NIGERIA

Army Readiness for Peacekeeping Missions Noted

AB081000 Lagos NAN in English 0938 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Rukuba (Plateau), Jul 7 (NAN) — The general officer commanding the 3d Armored Division of the Nigerian Army, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, said yesterday in Rukuba, near Jos, that the Army was ready to send soldiers on peace-keeping missions whenever the OAU made such a request.

Presenting medals to 15 soldiers who were members of the Nigerian contingent to the OAU peace-keeping force in Chad, Maj Gen Buhari said that it was the first time that the Army had participated in an OAU peace-keeping mission. He commended the men of the 243d Armored Battalion for the role they played during the mission, adding that though the mission involved a lot of hazards, they lived up to expectations.

AFP: Nigeria, Chad Reportedly Exchange Prisoners

AB091024 Paris AFP in French 0744 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Lagos, 9 Jul (AFP) — Nigeria and Chad last Monday exchanged 52 prisoners captured during the recent border clashes between the two countries, the *New Nigerian* daily newspaper announced on Friday. During a ceremony in the Chadian capital, the paper states, 33 prisoners were handed over to the Chadian Secretary of State Alhaji Korom Hamet, and 19 Nigerian prisoners were handed over to the Nigerian ambassador to Chad.

This exchange of prisoners follows the agreement reached between President Shehu Shagari and Hissein Habre last weekend in Abuja, the new federal capital of Nigeria.

Chadian sources state that food, petrol, and other essential commodities which were locked up in Nigeria following the closure of the borders, have begun arriving in Chad, the *New Nigerian* adds.

Police Arrest Two for Death of Political Campaigners

AB090909 Lagos NAN in English 0850 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Ibadan, July 8 (NAN) — The police have arrested two suspects in connection with the death of six persons in a violent incident that occurred at Modakeke, near Ile-Ife, yesterday, an assistant inspector-general of police, Mr. Victor Pam, said today in Ibadan. A UPN [Unity Party of Nigeria] gubernatorial campaign team had earlier obtained police permit to hold its rally in the area.

Mr Pam told newsmen that five persons were burnt and one allegedly shot to death, while eight others were injured during the incident.

He said that a UPN candidate for the House of Representatives' election, Chief S. Akinyele, was still missing and that five vehicles, including two police vans, were damaged.

Mr Pam, who is in charge of operations in the area, said that the police granted the permit to the UPN "in the belief that the condition is conducive" for holding the rally.

The assistant inspector-general said that the police were still investigating whether the incident was a communal dispute or was politically motivated.

In another development, the Oyo speaker, Chief Mokolade Obolagunte, announced that Chief Akinyele, the UPN candidate for the Obokun federal constituency, and a state legislator, Mr. Oluwole Odelola, were burnt to death in a UPN vehicle during the incident.

In a tribute to the late Mr. Odelola, the chief whip, Akinlabi Kuponiyi, recalled the recent political clashes in the state, saying that the Ooni of Ife, Oba Sijuade Olubuse II, should "invoke the gods of the Oduduwa to bring peace to Yorubaland."

SENEGAL

Cameroon Foreign Minister Discusses Chad

AB081344 Dakar PANA in French 1150 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Dakar, 8 Jul (APS-SENEGAL/PANA) — Cameroonian Foreign Affairs Minister Felix Tonye Mbog arrived yesterday in Dakar where he was met by his Senegalese counterpart, Moustapha Niasse. Mr Mbog, who is carrying a personal message from President Paul Biya to President Abdou Diouf, did not reveal its contents but implied that the message is related to periodic consultations between the two governments.

Concerning the Chadian conflict, the minister reiterated the Cameroon Government's concern about the conflict. "Cameroon's role," he stressed, "is mainly to help find a solution to the Chadian conflict."

Asked about the possibility of eventually sending Cameroonian troops to Chad, Mr Mbog said that Cameroon has adopted an attitude of a neighboring country. "Cameroon is ready to receive refugees, to give them shleter and medical services," he concluded.

President Receives Minister

AB090940 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The head of state today received various dignitaries, including Cameroonian Foreign Affairs Minister Felix Tonye Mbog, who was carrying a personal message from His Excellency Paul Biya, president of the United Republic of Cameroon. The audience was held in the presence of Senegalese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Moustapha Niasse.

SIERRA LEONE

AFP: ROK Official Charges DPRK Interference

AB081335 Paris AFP in English 1315 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Freetown, Sierra Leone, July (AFP) — (Na Sok-ho), leader of a South Korean parliament delegation currently visiting here, has accused North Korea of "desperate machinations to sabotage" the forthcoming Interparliamentary Union (IPU) meeting to be held in Seoul in October. Mr (Na), who is accompanied by his ruling Justice Party colleague (Li Chae-wu), and (Kim Chin-pae) of the opposition party, made his attack on Pyongyang in an interview shortly after addressing the Sierra Leone Parliament.

The delegation, which held wide-ranging discussions with Sierra Leone President Siaka Stevens, his vice-presidents and parliamentary leaders, said the North Koreans should "stop interfering" with preparations for the 70th IPU meeting by persuading some of the 98 invited nations not to attend. "Instead of sabotaging the meeting, the North Koreans should accept the hand of friendship and brotherhood we are extending to them and accept the invitation to attend the meeting, which we think will serve as a concrete forum for the promotion of reunification efforts between north and south."

The delegation, which has already invited senegal to the IPU meeting, handed a similar invitation to Sierra Leone. The visit also coincides with the 21st anniversary of formal Sierra Leone-South Korea relations.

In his address, often interrupted by prolonged applause and a standing ovation, Mr (Na) said that the Korean people owe Sierra Leone a "debt of gratitude" for supporting Korea's "national reconciliation and democratic plan whose sole objective is to achieve unification through peaceful means."

South Korea "shares the same principle as Sierra Leone's foreign policy of ennouraging dialogue and negotiation among the parties concerned in such issues as Chad, Western Shara, Namibia and Palestine, which is the basic principle of resolving international problems," Mr (Na) said.

He condemned South Africa's apartheid policies and expressed "South Korea's strongest support for the anti-apartheid efforts of African governments."

"We are working hard to build a democratic state ensuring the welfare of all, consolidating peace on the Korean Peninsula and trying to achieve unification. At the same time we are doing our best to be a good neighbor and reliable partner to all nations of the world in the interest of peace and prosperity.

"Such resolution has been clearly demonstrated through the historic visit to four African nations in August last year by President Chon Tu-huan, the first ever by any Asian leader to cover such a distance.

"Such Resolution will be witnessed in the general conference of the Interparliamentary Union in October, the general convention of the IBRD/IMF in 1985, the Asian Games in 1986 and the Olympic Games in 1988, all to be held in Seoul," Mr (Na) told Parliament.

Stevens Receives Delegation

AB081227 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] The three-man parliamentary delegation from the ROK, currently on a visit to this country, has paid a courtesy call on President Siaka Stevens at State House. The leader of the delegation, (Na Sok-ho), conveyed greetings from President Chon Tu-hwan to Dr Stevens and noted that under the wise leadership of President Stevens, Sierra Leone has continued to make economic strides despite worldwide inflationary trends. He informed President Stevens that the ROK will host the next International Parliamentary Union [IPU] meeting in October this year and looked for Sierra Leone's participation at the meeting.

Mr Na said through the friendly cooperation between the two parliaments, the political, social, and economic ties between the two countries could be further strengthened. He also extended an official invitation to President Stevens to visit Korea.

On behalf of the government and people of Sierra Leone, President Stevens welcomed the delegation, adding: We cherish the ties of friendship binding the two countries. Dr Stevens expressed the hope that the bonds of friendship would grow stronger to the mutual benefit of both states.

On the reunification of Korea, President Stevens looked forward to the peaceful reunification of both countries, and said Sierra Leone would always be willing to play its part toward the realization of one Korea. Dr Stevens hoped that Sierra Leone's delegation at the forthcoming IPU meeting in Seoul would gain a lot during their stay. The president hoped that he would be able to visit the ROK in the future.

Earlier, the leader of the House, Sam Kley, introduced members of the delegation to the president. Other members of the delegation are (Li Chae-wu), also a member of the ruling Democratic Party; and (Kim Chin-Pae), a member of the opposition party. The delegation was accompanied to State House by the ROK ambassador in Sierra Leone, Choe Chong-ik; the deputy speaker of Parliament, William Conteh; and other officials of Parliament.

Further on SADCC Meeting in Mozambique

Standing Committee Meets

AB081257 Dakar PANA in English 1235 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Maputo, 8 Jul (AIM/PANA) — The Standing Committee of officials of SADCC (Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference) began meeting in Maputo this morning.

The meeting, which is scheduled to last all day, will prepare documents for the SADCC Council of Ministers meeting to be held tomorrow.

Heads of state and government of the other eight SADCC members will arrive in Mozambique on Sunday, and the annual heads of state summit will take place in Maputo on Monday.

SADCC energy ministers are today visiting the Cabora Bassa Dam on the River Zambezi in Mozambique's northwestern Province of Tete.

Van Dunem Delivers Address

AB081308 Dakar PANA in English 1240 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Maputo, 8 Jul (AIM/PANA) — Energy is one of the most important strategic weapons in the liberation struggle, which has not yet concluded, and it is our enemy who has made us aware of this through his attacks on energy installations, declared Pedro van Dunem, Angola's minister of energy and oil, at the opening yesterday afternoon of a meeting of energy ministers from the nine member states of SADCC (Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference).

Both Mr van Dunem and Mozambique's minister of industry and energy, Antonio Branco, drew attention to the way in which South Africa had made the energy sector in the region a target for sabotage. Mr van Dunem cited the attacks against the Lomaum Dam in central Angola, against fuel deposits in Beira and in Lesotho, against the Beira-Zimbabwe pipeline and against the Cabora Bassa power lines. The South Africans, he said, wished to impose energy policies that would increase the dependence of the independent states in the region on Pretoria.

The energy situation in southern Africa has not evolved as well as it could and should have, continued the minister, before outlining difficulties faced by SADCC members in each of the main sources of energy.

He pointed in particular to the critical imbalance between the supply of and the demand for oil and its derivatives, and the "negative consequences," for SADCC members of the enormous cost of imported oil. Improving the supply of oil was proving "more complex than we had thought before beginning our study on the subject."

There was a need to increase refining capacity in the region. But even the extension of the refining installations in Angola (currently the only oil producer in SADCC), or the building of an entirely new refinery in Angola would be insufficient, and most member states would have to continue relying on refined fuels imported from outside the region.

Before making expensive investments in refineries, however, continued Mr van Dunem, member states needed to assess the technical capacity of their installations. (Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe have refineries: But the main technical problem is that refineries which process Middle Eastern oil cannot switch to Angolan oil, which has a different chemical content, without structural changes.)

Turning to hydro-electric power, Mr van Dunem said that in 1981 production in the region had been 77 percent in excess of consumption, but that if there was no new investment, this would still leave important reserves of hydro-electric power in 1990, but without fresh investment Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and southern Mozambique ran the risk of being forced to import increasingly large quantities of power from South Africa.

It was urgent, said the minister, to consider "in a coordinated manner the rational use of our hydro-electric resources, and particularly of the River Zambezi."

The existence of enormous coal reserves in the region had been proved, continued Mr van Dunem, however, its large-scale exploitation was made difficult by the relatively small domestic market, the limited export possibilities, and competition from the world's major coal producers.

"The most worrying sector," said Mr van Dunem, "is probably woodfuel." Despite increased measures to renovate forests "a rapid degradation is evident." Woodfuel, he reported, accounts for about two-thirds of the region's energy consumption. He stressed the urgency of reducing wood consumption, replacing it with other sources of energy, and introducing new technologies into rural areas, particularly those worst hit by deforestation.

A seminar to be held in Luanda in October would discuss the woodfuel crisis. Mr van Dunem hoped that it would bring forward "recommendations for minimizing this serious problem."

Apart from Mr van Dunem and Mr Branco, the other ministers attending the meeting are Botswana's minister of natural resources and water affairs, Dr G.K.T. Chiede; Lesotho's minister of water energy and mining, Natete Majara; Swaziland's minister of works, power and communications, W.M. Magongo; Tanzania's minister of water and energy, A.M. Kassum; Zambia's minister of power, transport and communications, G.K. Chinkuli; and Zimbabwe's minister of industry and energy development, Simba Makoni. Malawi's delegation to the meeting is headed by the Malawian ambassador in Mozambique, J.B. Itimo.

Energy Ministers Endorse Cooperation

MB090731 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Energy ministers of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] meeting in Maputo have agreed on specific areas of cooperation in the fields of coal, electricity, new technology to obtain energy, and a permanent system of technical information and coordination among member states. Projects approved include research into the possibility of exporting coal and conservation of coal, and six programs for electrical exchange involving seven of the nine SADCC member countries. Particular attention will be given to rural electrification and the measurement of the flow of the Zambezi River in Angola.

Machel Hosts Reception

MB110758 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The summit of heads of state and government of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] is due to begin in Maputo today. Presidents Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, Quett Masire of Botswana, Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, as well as Prime Ministers Leabua Jonathan of Lesotho, Bhekimpi Dlamini of Swaziland, and Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe arrived in Maputo yesterday to take part in the summit. Malawi will be represented by its minister of finance, who also arrived in Maputo yesterday.

President Samora Machel hosted a reception last night for the delegates to the SADCC summit of heads of state and government. In a brief speech, the Mozambique head of state described the summit as part of the struggle for progress, well-being, and peace in the world.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Meets SWAPO's President Nujoma

MB081957 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos received the ambassador of Cape Verde accredited to Luanda, (Inacio Ramos), and the president of SWAPO, Sam Nujoma, in separate audiences this morning. The latter meeting was also attended by the secretary of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party for external relations, Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda.

Dos Santos Receives Guinea-Bissau Minister

MB110802 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Before his departure for Maputo, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos received the minister of foreign affairs of Guinea-Bissau, Samba Lamine Mane, who arrived in Luanda yesterday with a personal message from President Joao Bernardo Vieira.

New Government Officials Sworn in 7 July

MB081351 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] At Futungo de Belas in Luanda yesterday, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos swore in the new government members who were appointed recently. They are: Carlos Fernandes, state secretary for cooperation; (Joaquim Guerreiro Dias), vice minister of home trade; and (Soares Fernandes), secretary of the Council of Ministers.

The new officials took their oath of honor, pledging to defend the independence and territorial integrity of the country, and to carry out and ensure the fulfilment of the laws of the People's Republic of Angola. At the end of the ceremony, the supreme leader of the nation wished all of them success in their tasks and reminded them that they should always bear in mind the party guidelines while carrying out the functions of their offices, giving special emphasis to this year's slogan, which is: To strengthen organization.

UNITA Reports Capture of Town, Attack Near Luanda

MB101012 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Communique issued by the chief of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] general staff at UNITA central base in Angola on 4 Jul]

[Text] On 3 July 1983, as part of its efforts to carry out the strategy of moving toward the north outlined by the fifth UNITA congress, FALA forces conducted the following attacks:

The FALA 9th Brigade took the strategic village of Mussende by storm. The village, which is situated in Cuanza Sul Province, was part of the defense of Malange city from the south. After 2 and 1/2 hours of shooting, UNITA gained control of the situation and killed 240 members of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and the People's Defense Organization [ODP].

A total of 37 FAPLA soldiers and 400 assorted weapons, 1,300 boxes of ammunition, and 3,000 artillery and mortar shells were captured. Our forces released 1,300 civilians and suffered 7 dead and 20 wounded. The Cubans, who were part of a company of instructors stationed in the Mussende line, withdrew by helicopter on 30 June 1983 when they noted that our forces were approaching the region.

On the same day, our forces, mixed with the people, successfully attacked the towns of (Queiculo) and Luinha in Cuanza Norte Province, some 150 km south of Luanda, the capital city. A total of 15 weapons and 1 60-mm mortar were captured during the attacks.

The struggle triumphs. United, we will win.

UNITA Central Base in Angola on 4 Jul 1983, year of the Anti-Cuban Effort.

[Signed] Brigadier (Demogenes Amos Chirigudila), chief of general staff.

LESOTHO

LLA Claims Responsibility for House Bombing

MB081644 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1554 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Johannesburg, July 8, SAPA — The Lesotho Liberation Army today claimed responsibility for the bombing of a house in Makhunoane on Wednesday, in which it alleged five members of the Lesotho Paramilitary Force were killed.

In a statement to SAPA, a man purporting to be a spokesman for the LLA – the military wing of the exiled Basutoland Congress Party - said five men and possibly a woman, who were all linked to the LPF, were "shot and blown up" by a unit of the LLA. It named the woman, whom they accused of harbouring LPF men in her house, only as Matatolo.

"That Matatolo woman is not only an active member of Leabua's (the Lesotho prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan) notorious monsters which mercilessly massacre innocent unarmed Lesotho men and women in Lesotho, she has also allowed LPF men who operate at Makhunoane to use her house as a secret military base," the LLA claimed.

The guerrillas alleged that an LPF helicopter and an ambulance arrived near the destroyed house yesterday to remove the corpses. They could not confirm whether the woman was also killed in the attack. The LLA reiterated that it would "fight to the bitter end" to overthrow the Lesotho Government.

SOUTH AFRICA

Defense Minister Malan Delivers Address

Comments on Neighboring Countries

MB091157 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1016 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Kempton Park, July 9 SAPA — South Africa's neighbours need not fear military action from South Africa if they were not involved, "hand in glove with the Russian imperialists and their agents" in subversive activities against the republic, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, said today.

Speaking at a Commando Day parade in Kempton Park, General Malan also assured the country's neighbours that South Africa would never "directly attack them," but would act only against terrorist "nests" in their countries "and we will continue with this should it be found to be in the interests of our own country."

South Africa's "unchanging self-confidence" and its ability to defend itself posed no danger for its neighbouring states, he said. "South Africa has no desire to attack its neighbours it simply has the will to defend itself. Should our neighbours remove those areas of conflict, for example, support of terrorists who threaten our territorial integrity, they need have no fear."

General Malan said it was interesting to note, however, how many of the country's neighbours were "now sending allegations into the wide world that we intend attacking them." "One has to wonder whether this is because they themselves are standing behind the door," he said. South Africa reserved the right to act against terrorists who threatened its peace. "Our neighbours in Africa know this full well. We have told them this time and time again. It now seems as if those who complain most may be feeling guilty," he added.

"All they have to do is examine themselves and if they are sure that they are not busy with subversive activities, hand in glove with the Russian imperialists and their agents, they can be assured that they need fear no action from South Africa. Furthermore, they also have to know that we don't and won't act directly against them, but only against terrorist nests in their territory and we will continue with this should it be found to be in the interests of our own country," General Malan said.

Analyzes 'Propaganda Onslaught'

MB091200 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1142 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Kempton Park, Jul 9, SAPA The minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, today hinted that the Defence Act might be applied more strictly to the media in the future because of the "absolute lies" against South Africa being published by newspaper correspondents in some of the country's neighboring states and transmitted to South African newspapers.

Speaking at a Commando Day parade in Kempton Park, General Malan referred to what he called a "new tendency in the propoganda onslaught" against South Africa. The defence minister said it was no longer enough that state leaders in neighbouring states spread allegations and "half truths" about South Africa. "This is now being supplemented with absolute lies by newspaper correspondents in some of our neighbouring states. My liaison division is being confronted daily with reports on South Africa's alleged attempts to destabalise Southern Africa," he said. "A person gains the impression that the republic has been outlawed (voelvry veklaar is) and that every Marxist-inclined journalist is sucking allegations out of his thumb daily and then still sending it to South Arican newspapers for publication," he added.

A typical example of this was a recent report by a journalist from Mozambique that South Africa was planning to attack the former Portuguese colony, and that the Mozambican forces had been placed on full alert. "The report was sent out after we had informed the country's government (Mozambique) at diplomatic level that we were going to hold another army exercise near their border.""This was done out of courtesy to that government."

General Malan said he trusted that South African newspapers had taken cognizance of the situation and that, for the sake of truth, would "maintain the integrity of their newspapers and not play along with the enemy." "We have been very accommodating in the past as far as the application of the defence act with regard to newspapers and news organisations has been concerned, but this government cannot allow lies and blatant propaganda to be dished out to our public (aan ons publiek opgedis word nie)," he said. "I have instructed the [SADF] liaison officers not to react anymore to such blatancies (blantanthede) that originate with journalists, and by so doing, give credence to such lies. There are radicals at work in our country who thrive on such lies" the defence minister added.

Cites Soviet Threat

MB100510 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1222 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Kempton Park, July 9, SAPA — By allowing Soviet representatives in their countries, some African countries were merely aiding the Soviets in their plans to enslave the rest of the free world, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, warned today.

Speaking at a Commando Day parade at Kempton Park, he said it was a well-known fact that the Soviets used their embassies as nests for KGB agents and spies, and for subversive activities against host countries. This was the reason for the enormous build-up of Soviet Embassy personnel in neighbouring states like Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and now also Lesotho, he said. "Some of those countries are wrongly of the opinion that the Soviet representatives are there for the well-being of their host countries. That is not true because they are only there for their own imperialistic plans as part of the world revolution to enslave the whole globe to serve Mother Russia," General Malan said.

"That is why they indulge in the planned destabilisation of Southern Africa. They use terrorism for this purpose and back it up with a well-orchestrated propaganda campaign to gain international support for their activities. The least of their plans is to establish model states, but their aim is a total takeover of power by Marxist Russia," he added.

What was more distressing was the fact that the Marxist ideology, which was being presented to the masses as an "ideology of freedom," was in fact more racialistic in nature than any other existing system of government. "Marxism is nothing but an instrument to enable the traditional Red Russian to discriminate maximally in terms of race, language, culture, and religion against all races or groups," General Malan asserted. "Marxism gives an international cloak to the oppressors, where it has monopolised its own large empire and suppressed and oppressed other nationalistic cultures and languages over a period of years.

"It had become a matter of urgency for some African leaders to discard the blinkers that had been blinding them and to take note of this reality," General Malan said. "Another misconception is that it is the propaganda media of these racist ideologists that have the audacity to accuse South Africa of destablisation while they themselves stand behind the door." Increased Soviet destabilisation in southern Africa had caused South Africa to build up a "phenomenal" defence system over the years, General Malan added.

"Since the early fifties, these destabilising efforts have been manifested on various terrains. Organisations like churches and training institutions have become targets and instruments, workers organisations have been infiltrated, and, finally, the destabilisation attempt has manifested itself on all possible terrains, namely the political, psychological, economic, and military (terrains)," he said.

He added that military preparedness and the support of all South Africans, irrespective of colour and creed, were essential to be able to withstand the onslaught on the country.

Industrial Commando Scheme Progresses

MB110538 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Our military correspondent reports that the Army is making progress with its scheme to expand the system of industrial commandos in view of the increased security threat to the country. Members of several new units have undergone training in the protection of key points to ensure that production of strategic goods, the generation of power, and essential communications are maintained. The units will also assist in the gathering of intelligence about security threats.

The industrial commandos are made up of employees of the organizations concerned, and members of the citizen force may also apply to be declared area-bound to join these units. Our correspondent reports that the private sector has also made an important contribution to improve security by appointing more personnel to their own security forces.

Ex-Head of SABRA To Continue Voicing Views

MB061256 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 6 Jul 83

[Text] The chairman of the South African Bureau for Racial Affairs [SABRA], Professor Carel Boshoff, says the government's expected suspension of its annual 70,000-rand contribution to SABRA will not prevent him from again making his views known on the constitution bill. Prof Boshoff says the scientific findings on the constitution bill will be published and distributed in a brochure and that the bureau will accept invitations to express its viewpoint on it. He says provision has been made so that SABRA's research work will not be interrupted and that new financial sources will be sought. Prof Boshoff says there is not reason enough for the government to suspend its contributions because SABRA's findings are based on scientific research and that it also researches other national affairs such as regional development and decentralization.

ZAMBIA

Congolese President Praises Kaunda's Leadership

MB081918 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Visiting Congolese President Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso has urged Zambians to guard jealously the unity and peace they enjoy under President Kaunda's leadership. The president said unless Zambians maintain the unity, it would be difficult for them to develop their country, which is endowed with immense mineral wealth.

Col Sassou-Nguesso said this when he addressed a huge crowd of Kitwe residents who turned up at Hotel Edinburgh to welcome him. He said in unity Zambians will be able to build their economy, and contribute to the overall development of the African Continent. He said he was convinced that Zambia was headed for greater political, economic, and social development under the able leadership of Dr Kaunda, who he described as an outstanding leader.

Meanwhile, Livingstone residents have been mobilized to give visiting Congolese President Col Denis Sassou-Nguesso a rousing welcome when he arrives in Livingstone tomorrow for a brief 1-day visit. According to a program released for members of the Central Committee Office, the Congolese leader, who will be accompanied by Secretary General of the Party Mr Humphrey Mulemba, will arrive at Livingstone Airport about 1900 hours. He will be met by a Southern Province member of the Central Committee, Mr (Ngwandito), and the party and government leaders.

President Receives Polisario Front Envoy

MB101003 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 10 July 83

[Text] President Kaunda declared in Lusaka yesterday that Zambia was standing behind the just struggle by the Polisario Front, fighting for the independence against Morocco. Speaking at State House when he received a special message from the Polisario Front, Dr Kaunda assured the combatants of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic that Zambia was behind their struggle.

Dr Kaunda told Ambassador (Mousa), the future envoy of the Polisario Front and bearer of the message, that Zambia's stand on the warring factions was a matter of principle. He pointed out that the people of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic have a right to live on their own and to determine their own destiny, and Morocco should appreciate this part. Dr Kaunda added that the Organization of African Unity also resolved that there should be dialogue between Polisario and [words indistinct] development into an independent state.

ZIMBABWE

Prime Minister Addresses Militia Instructors

MB061944 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Jul 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says the paramilitary forces can only receive intelligence information about the enemy if they establish good relations with the masses. Comrade Mugabe made this remark when he reviewed the passing out parade of 811 militia instructors in Bindura today.

The prime minister said that the Zimbabwe National Army and the police force will always rely on the militia for intelligence information [words indistinct] concerning enemy forces in the country and their tricks. He said without full support from the masses, the paramilitary forces are unable to accomplish their target.

The prime minister said that the defence of the country is paramount if the plans for rapid socioeconomic development are to be implemented.

Comrade Mugabe pointed out that the Pretoria regime will never attack Zimbabwe because it is afraid of Zimbabwe's achievements in the areas of nonracialism and democracy, which are bound to inspire the black majority to fight resolutely against apartheid. He said the Pretoria regime infiltrates armed bandits into Zimbabwe as a way of trying to render us incapable of supporting the liberation struggle in Namibia and South Africa. The prime minister said Zimbabwe will continue to support the oppressed people of Southern Africa in terms of its connections to the OAU resolution.

The prime minister said it is the duty of the militia to expose and hit hard the central enemy [word indistinct] before they strike our strategic installations. Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabwe's defence forces should also not allow ZAPU to use the dissidents as a means to obtain what they lost through the election. He said ZAPU has not condemned the dissidents, who have committed crimes in the name of the party and its leadership.

The passing out parade was attended by the minister of state responsible for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, and Comrade Sydney Sekeremayi, minister of state for defence; the Korean ambassador to Zimbabwe, Comrade Yi Won-Kuk; as well as other Cabinet ministers and senior officers of the Army and police.

President Mugabe Ends Visit to Bulawayo

MB100638 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, concluded his 3-day visit to Bulawayo and Bembezi yesterday and has since returned to Harare. At a members rally at (Barbersfield) Stadium in Bulawayo, Comrade Mugabe appealed for unity among Zimbabweans of all races and political persuasions. He said blood had been shed from Chirundu to Beitbridge, and from Chipinga to Victoria Falls in order to bring about an independent Zimbabwe. Comrade Mugabe urged those who support dissidents to part ways with these bandits. He said such people should not squeal when the government decides to take strong measures against them.

Commenting on wages and salaries, the prime minister said the government is still studying the situation, and a decision will be made soon on increments. Comrade Mugabe assured the masses that he will send the minister of local government and town planning, Comrade Chikore, to investigate alleged nepotism within the Bulawayo city council.

Dissidents Attack Resettlement Villages

MB071016 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0941 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Text] Bulawayo, July 7, SAPA — Dissidents armed with bazookas, AK and FN rifles attacked two resettlement villages between Bulawayo and Hwange on Sunday morning, leaving 58 families homeless, according to victims.

It was the second such attack within a month after the burning of huts at the Dombodema resettlement village on June 11, which left 156 villagers homeless and several injured.

The attackers of Villages 24 and 25 at the Mbembesi resettlement project, about 60 km east of Lupane, said they belonged to "the people's army".

The settlement are about 20 km north of where a band of dissidents abducted six tourists on July 24 last year.

The victimns said the dissidents first arrived at Village 24 at 10 pm on Saturday and told the inhabitants they were surrounded and must remain inside the village.

The attackers then disappeared but returned at 4 am the following day. They woke the inhabitants and told them to remove their belongings from the huts.

Some people managed to save their property but many were caught still trying to remove their belongings as the huts were set ablaze.

The dissidents told them they were destroying the village because they disagreed with the resettlement system.

As the village burned, the attackers fired several shots into the air. Shots came in response from Village 25 about 10 km away.

The attack on Village 25 also started at 4 am.

At both places the attackers threatened to return and kill the people if they remained at the village sites.

Officials from the Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development visited the two villages yesterday and promised to send food and other necessities.

Attacked Villages Receive Aid

MB080723 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Relief food supplies have been delivered to 68 victims of the Mbembesi resettlement scheme left homeless by a dissident attack in Bulawayo last Sunday. Officials of the Ministry of Lands, Resettlement, and Rural Development in Bulawayo said the villagers'plight had been reported to the head office in Harare. Village 25 in (Kenamu) farm resettlement scheme and Village 24 in neighboring pioneer east block received 50 bags of maize and 2 bags of salt each.